WORLD SOCCER

The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

AUGUST 1988 £1.10
IR £1.60
SOR

Tactical standstill in Europe

Player Portrait on MARCO VAN BASTEN

MEXICO YOUTH CUP SCANDAL

CLUB FOCUS: NEWELL'S OLD BOYS

WORLD SOCCER
THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE
Editor
KEIR RADNEDGE
Managing Editor
PHILIP RISING
Advertisement Manager
MICK HOOKER

WHAT TO CALL
EDITORIAL
01-261 5636
ADVERTISING
01-261 5607
SUBSCRIPTION
01-686 9777

AUGUST 1988
Vol. 28 No. 11

FAX NO
01-261 5638

29th Floor
King's Reach Tower
Stamford Street
London SE1 9LS
WORLD SOCCER is published by the Proprietors Websters Publications Ltd. Origination and typesetting by Saffron Graphics, Onslow House, 66 Saffron Hill, London EC1N 8AY. Printed by Thamesmouth, Basildon, Essex. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper.
Copyright Websters Publications Ltd.

BRITAIN — WIPED OFF UEFA MAP

JUST look at the UEFA symobol.

NO wonder President Jacques Georges is scratching his head at the Munich congress.

Not only England but Wales and Scotland as well as Ireland have been 'dropped' from the map of Europe.

Does Jacques Georges know something we don't?

BRAZIL, fresh from their Gold Cup success in Australia, are heading for Europe.

Manager Carlos Alberto's new-look team continue their preparations for the Seoul Olympics with friendlies against Norway in Oslo on July 28, against Sweden in Stockholm on July 31 and against Austria in Vienna on August 3.

In Australia, the Brazilians finished top of the round-robin first stage, then beat their hosts 4-1 in the Final despite having defender Jorginho sent off in the 61st minute.

Waves

But the tournament was a disaster for World Cup holders Argentina.

They lost 4-1 to Australia in a decisive first round game and the shock waves were felt all the way back to Buenos Aires.

Manager Carlos Bilardo insisted, however, that he was not worried.

He added: "The team which won the World Cup was the one which played in Mexico in 1986. That's all gone.

"We are building a new team and we have to take everything in our stride — even defeats like this."

KEIR RADNEL

VIOLENT dissent is emerging as one of the game's most urgent problems.

Almost everywhere, it seems, more and more players are flagrantly defying the authority of referees.

The men in black are only human. They make mistakes. But if FIFA and UEFA and their confederations, federations and associations are serious in battling hooliganism off the pitch, they should crack down hard on inflamatory hooliganism on the pitch.

At the end of the Champions' Cup semi-final second leg between PSV Eindhoven and Real Madrid, Swiss referee Bruno Galler was jostled, insulted and buffeted by the defeated Spainards.

They had lost, ultimately, because of their own failings but took out frustration on the referee.

Star midfielder Michel was banned by UEFA for nine matches, Mexican club-mate Hugo Sanchez for three. Predictably, Madrid appealed. Equally predictably UEFA cut the bans to three games in the case of Michel, one game in the case of Sanchez.

A pity.

If UEFA are not prepared to protect the authority of one referee

ITAL

ITALY could be the big casualty of the European club confusion caused by the Olympic games in Seoul.

Now that fully-fledged professionals are welcomed into the Games — Italy among them — the 1988/89 Italian Championship is not starting until October 9.

Not only will Italy's top clubs not have played any serious competitive football (the first round of the Italian Cup does not really count) for nearly five months, they will not kick a ball in earnest until after the completion of the first round ties in the three European club competitions.

Milan, complete with their Dutch trio of Gullit, Van Basten and Rijkaard, could be the most resounding casualty.

They face Vitosha (formerly Levsky Spartak) in the first round. And while the Bulgarians may not be in the same class as Arrigo Sacchi's men, they can prove extremely awkward opposition.

In the Cup-winners' Cup, Sampdoria face Norrkoping. And whereas the Italians will be short of competitive practice, the Swedes will be entering the closing stages of their season and ticking over nicely.

Only in the UEFA Cup can the Italians step out with any real confidence. Even here — though Juventus and Internazionale should, respectively, have too much experience for Otelul Galati of Rumania and Brage of Sweden — Roma may be up against more than

Spotlight on Marco van Basten 4
Brian Glanville column 6
Tactics 8
Beckenbauer's plans 10
Vicini makes final 13
Australian Gold Cup 14
Focus on Denmark and Ireland 16
World Soccer special on Malta 20
Club Focus on Newell's Old Boys 22
USA stage World Cup 24
Mexico kicked out 26
British season preview 28
News from Europe 30/35
News from North and South America 36/39
African Notebook 40
World Soccer Diary 42/45
Results and tables 46/49
World Cup dates 50
Olympic Games 51
Belanov . . . where now? 52
Shop Window 53/55

GE REPORTS

DISSENT — TODAY'S DISEASE

then other referees will feel the violent backlash.

Real Madrid, themselves, with an immense reputation, should ensure their players protect it in victory or defeat. The same goes for Brazil, whose defender Jorginho caused all sorts of upset by refusing, for four minutes, to accept his expulsion in the Gold Cup Final victory over hosts Australia in Sydney.

So much for indisciplined players.

Cup final

Unfortunately the worst betrayal of a referee was seen in the Rumanian cup final. Three minutes from the end of the 90 minutes, referee Dan Petrescu disallowed the goal which would have put double-hunting Steaua 2-1 ahead against Dinamo Bucharest.

Steaua refused to play on; Dinamo's players claimed the cup by default; fighting fans — inflamed by what had happened on the pitch — spilled over from the terraces. The match was abandoned.

The following day the Rumanian sports council overruled and suspended Petrescu, decided that the goal should stand and proclaimed Steaua winners.

What is it about Rumania and referees ?

It was Rumanian referee Ioan Igna who allowed Brazilian goalkeeper to get away with disgraceful 'professional foul on Frenchman Yannick Stopyra in the 1986 World Cup quarter-finals; he was also the referee who awarded those two controversial penalties in the recent European championship semi-final between West Germany and Holland in Hamburg.

Players who make bad mistakes are dopped from the international team. Rightly. So why not referees?

Perhaps, if players felt that the same laws operated for referees, confidence would improve all round. Certainly, Igna's appearance apart, the success of UEFA's high-profile insistence on fair play at the European finals proved that at the highest level, with the biggest prizes, the spirit of the game can be upheld.

At the start of a new professional season in western and central Europe it must be admitted that no single section — clubs, players or referees — are solely to blame for the game's behavioural battering.

It's truly a global problem.

That's why, gentlemen of FIFA and your constellation of confederations and federations, this ball is in your court . . .

Y LATE START

they can handle at that stage of the year with Nurnberg.

As for Napoli against PAOK Salonika, who dare predict? No-one expected them to fall to Toulouse in the UEFA Cup two years ago. Temperament will play a big part in what promises to be two passionate clashes.

Napoli's prospects may well depend on the state of play off the pitch. Last seasons' mutineers — Garella, Bagni, Ferrario and Giordano — have all been sold off.

But no sooner was Diego Maradona back in town from a holiday in Polynesia than he was criticising the club's transfer dealings and suggesting that fellow Argentine Sergio Batista would have been a better buy than the Brazilian Alemao.

To see Napoli squabbling among themselves already is just the sort of encouragement PAOK need.

EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS 1988-89
(First Round: first legs on September 7; second legs on October 5)

CHAMPIONS' CUP

Bye: PSV Eindhoven (holders)	
Club Brugge	**v Brondby (Den)**
Dundalk	**v Red Star Belgrade**
Dynamo Berlin (EG)	**v Werder Bremen**
Gornik Zabrze	**v Jeunesse Esch**
Hamrun Spartans	**v Nentori (Alb)**
Honved	**v Celtic**
FC Larissa	**v Neuchatel Xamax**
Monaco	**v Valur**
Pezoporikos Larnaca	**v IFK Gothenburg**
FC Porto	**v HJK Helsinki**
Rapid Vienna	**v Galatasaray Istanbul**
Real Madrid	**v Moss (Nor)**
Sparta Prague	**v Steaua Bucharest**
Spartak Moscow	**v Glentoran**
FC Vitosha (Bul)	**v Milan**

CUP WINNERS' CUP
Preliminary Round

Bekescsaba (Hun)	**v Bryne (Nor)**
First Round	
Borac Banjaluka (Yug)	**v Metallist Kharkov**
Carl Zeiss Jena	**v FC Krems (Aus)**
Derry City	**v Cardiff City**
Dinamo Bucharest	**v Kuusysi Lahti (Fin)**
FC Floriana	**v Dundee United**
Flamurtari (Alb)	**v Lech Poznan**
Fram Reykjavik	**v Barcelona**
Glenavon	**v Aarhus (Den)**
Grasshoppers	**v Eintracht Frankfurt**
Inter Slovnaft (Cz)	**v Sredets Sofia**
Mechelen (holders)	**v Avenir Beggen**
Metz	**v Anderlecht**
IFK Norrkoping (Swe)	**v Sampdoria**
Omonia Nicosia	**v Panathinaikos**
JC Roda	**v Vitoria SC (Por)**
Sakaryaspor (Tur)	**v Bekescsaba or Byrne**

UEFA CUP
First round, first legs

FC Aarau (Swz)	**v Lokomotiv Leipzig**
AEK Athens	**v Athletic Bilbao**
Aberdeen	**v Dynamo Dresden**
Akranes (Ice)	**v Ujpest Dozsa**
Antwerp	**v Koln**
Bayer Leverkusen	**v Belenenses**
Bayern Munich	**v Legia Warsaw**
Besiktas	**v Dinamo Zagreb**
Dniepr Dniepropetrovsk	**v Bordeaux**
FC Groningen (Hol)	**v Atletico Madrid**
Internazionale	**v IK Brage (Swe)**
Malmo	**v Torpedo**
Molde FK (Nor)	**v Waregem**
Montpellier	**v Benfica**
Napoli	**v PAOK Salonika**
Oesters Vaxjo (Swe)	**v Dunajska Streda (Cz)**
Otelul Galati (Rum)	**v Juventus**
Partizan	**v Slavia Sofia**
Rangers	**v GKS Katowice**
Real Sociedad	**v Dukla Prague**
Roma	**v Nurnberg**
Servette	**v Sturm Graz**
Sporting Lisbon	**v Ajax Amsterdam**
St Patrick's Athletic	**v Heart of Midlothian**
Stuttgart	**v Tatabanya**
Trakia Plovdiv	**v Dynamo Minsk**
TPs Turku (Fin)	**v Linfield**
Union Luxemburg	**v FC Liege**
Velez Mostar	**v Apoel Nicosia**
Victoria Bucharest	**v Sliema Wanderers**
Vienna	**v Ikast FS (Den)**
Zhalgiris Vilnius	**v FK Austria**

WORLD SOCCER SPOTLIGHT ON THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIO

DUTCH fans, waiting at Munich's train station on the evening of June 25, knew who had won the European championship for them that afternoon. Every few seconds a supporter would yell 'MAR-co VAN BAS-ten!', and immediately Dutchmen all over the station would echo the cry.

Van Basten was voted the best player of the tournament for his five crucial goals. He received 1,250 votes, 672 more than second-placed Ruud Gullit, one of his Milan team-mates.

As remarkable as his goals was the grace with which he scored them. Recently a Dutch television programme tried to demonstrate the similarities between football and dance. It filmed movements of Van Basten and Clint Farrah, Holland's leading male ballet dancer. Van Basten's pirouettes and whirls matched Farrah's.

Van Basten's form at the Championships was not a fluke. He has scored and shone throughout his career. He is as prolific a scorer as men like Gary Lineker and Gerd Muller, and he possesses much more than the knack of being in the right place at the right time.

He can beat an opponent to create a chance for himself, and he can drop back into midfield to help build an attack. His close control is astonishing, far superior to that of Gullit, for instance. As Van Basten's former manager Aad de Mos said: "Many of his goals result from pure skill. You hardly ever see that anymore."

Marco Van Basten

by SIMON KUPER

Two of Van Basten's goals in West Germany bear this out perfectly. First, his goal in the semi-final against the hosts, which put the Dutch 2-1 up with two minutes to go. Van Basten and his German marker Jürgen Kohler were chasing a through ball from Jan Wouters. Van Basten got there first, sliding at top speed towards his right, and then he hooked the ball to the *left*, an almost impossibly unnatural action.

Four days later he followed this up with the volley against the Soviet Union which decided the final. Nobody in the stadium expected him to try a shot from Arnold Muhren's pass, so for a few seconds after the ball had sailed over Dasayev into the net the spectators were too astonished to applaud. Then the crowd more than made up for its brief lapse.

"You only score a goal like that once in your life," said Holland's manager Rinus Michels. Van Basten said it was "the finest goal of my career". Having seen some of his others, I think he's probably wrong.

Injuries

Van Basten came back from the dead, or at least from the severely injured, to achieve his success in Germany. Only a couple of months before, injuries to both ankles had nearly persuaded him to retire — at the age of 23. He was out of football from October to April, and in March Rinus Michels said that he didn't expect his striker to be fit in time for the Championships.

When Van Basten was able to play again, in April, he suffered the indignity of sitting on Milan's bench. Milan's manager Arrigo Sacchi could not drop Pietro Paolo Virdis, who had struck up a perfect partnership with Gullit. The result was that Van Basten did not play a full match until mid-May.

With hindsight, he believes that his long lay-off helped him. Most players arrived in West Germany exhausted after a full season. They were on the way down, whereas even during the championships themselves Van Basten was trying to build himself up. He did extra training when his team-mates were resting.

Frank Rijkaard, who also missed most of the regular season, had an excellent tournament too.

Van Basten says: "Probably we were fresher than the others, I don't need a holiday yet, for example. Frank feels the same way. He and I are really in the middle of our season."

But when the tournament started it looked as though Van Basten's lack of match practice would land him on the bench. Everyone agreed that Van Basten was a class above his rivals Johnny Bosman and Wim Kieft, but the latter two strikers had just completed excellent seasons.

Michels announced that Bosman was his first choice, and that Van Basten should try to win a place as a winger.

Van Basten was so upset that he almost decided to leave the team and go home. He sought advice from Johan Cruyff, who had been his manager at Ajax and who is a great admirer of Van Basten. Eventually Rinus Michels — with the help of Ronald Koeman and Gullit — persuaded Van Basten to stay.

He stayed with Holland, but he also stayed unhappy. Before the championships started he said: "This year, or at least that's what I've come to believe, is not my

DANCING

HOLLAND'S deserved triumph in the European Championships and, more especially their defeat of West Germany in the semi-finals in Hamburg, led to scenes of mass hysteria at home which suggested that this was more than a game.

Not since the end of the war had the Dutch seen anything like it. In Amsterdam, for instance, there were so many people on the streets that the trams were unable to move.

Yet, Holland's success stemmed from a curious mix of an earnest desire in trying to atone for past wrongs and, supposedly for many experts, fashioning the way in which the game will be played in the 21st century.

Given that, it was only fitting that in the magnificent surroundings of Munich's spage-age Olympiapark complex, Holland and the Soviet Union served up a final in which, as even Dutch coach Rinus Michels remarked: "Both teams played a future-kind of football."

Certainly, Holland still play the "beautiful game"; but then, largely thanks to Michels's inventive mind, that has always been so. More, important, under Michels, the Dutch always have been way ahead of their time.

Yet, for the mass media to say that Holland played "Football 2000", seems to me a distortion. No one can doubt the quality of their play, but surely the Dutch played merely a diluted version of the kind of football the great side of 1974 had extolled. If the present side offered us futuristic football what, then, for heaven's sake did the Cruyff-inspired side do? How far ahead of their time were they?

Furthermore, it has to be said that it is not wholly true, as many scribes have written, that Michels was the architect of total football.

For the phase "Total Football" which even Michels himself back in the

IS

VAN BASTEN MORE THAN A TOPSCORER

year."

Famous last words.

Van Basten started Holland's first match of the tournament, against the Soviet Union, on the bench, but after an hour Michels sent him on to join Bosman. Holland lost 1-0, Bosman failed, and so against England Michels put Van Basten in the starting line-up.

Nobody needs reminding of Van Basten's hat-trick against England. The dominant image of those 90 minutes was of a grinning Van Basten running slowly in the general direction of the corner flag, waving his right hand at cheering Dutch fans, and with his team-mates trying to embrace him.

"We knew that the English were vulnerable along the ground, and I was able to prove it," he said.

He had made safe his place in the side, and Michels was honest enough to admit that he had been wrong to leave Van Basten out against the Soviets. Another consequence of England-Holland was that it was now impossible for Van Basten to leave Milan for Barcelona.

Cruyff, the Catalan club's new manager, had suggested sending Gary Lineker to Milan in exchange for his protege. But after England-Holland nothing on earth would have persuaded Milan to part with Van Basten, and in any case they would hardly have wanted the ailing Lineker.

Cruyff had rated the Dutchman as the better player all along. What impresses him most is Van Basten's versatility — "On TV they were showing some goals of his. I saw eight or nine different kinds of goal: header at the front post, lob, shot under the keeper, a solo goal, everything."

Van Basten is the complete striker.

Cruyff continues: "Of course he sometimes plays badly, but he always scores. He doesn't even influence the play that much, but he decides matches."

Van Basten and Cruyff probably respect each other so greatly because they are two of a kind. Both are lithe, sharp and quick — as well as arrogant and money-loving. As Van Basten once said: "I want to become rich. I think about that a lot."

Fittingly, Van Basten came on as a substitute for Cruyff on his debut for Ajax, at 17. he scored twice, and Holland's then manager, Kees Rijvers, immediately said that here was Holland's next striker. A year later Van Basten won his first cap. He continued to progress, and was an established star at the age when most players are still boy wonders.

"I never had to tell him anything," said Dick Advocaat, a former coach of Holland's national youth sides.

By the time he was 22, Van Basten had played four full seasons in Holland, and had been the league topscorer every year. During his brief spell in Dutch football he scored 128 goals at an average of one a game. He won the Golden Boot for European league topscorer in 1986. In 1987 he came eighth in the voting for European Footballer of the Year.

The football world rates Van Basten highly, and he rates himself just as high. He is a well-educated, articulate man, and he is often scornful of his fellow-professionals.

As Cruyff says, with barely suppressed admiration: "He is aggressive, ambitious, and mercilessly hard on himself and his team-mates. I was sometimes startled by how he dared to tell the other Ajax players the truth, and I used to have to pull him up, even though he was generally quite right."

Van Basten is contemptuous of opposing centre-backs. After West Germany-Holland a journalist asked him what he thought of Jurgen Kohler, his marker. "Who is Kohler?" he replied.

Ivan Nielsen, Denmark's centre-back, tells of a league match in which Van Basten escaped him to score magnificently. Nielsen said to him: "Congratulations, that was a great goal," and Van Basten responded with, "You're right. It was intelligent of you to notice."

Van Basten's contempt of those who try to mark him can make him irritable when they succeed, or when they try to kick him. He tends to retaliate, or to get his retaliation in first. He received his original ankle injury when trying to foul an opponent.

If he can avoid more injuries he will surely become even better. By the World Cup in 1990 he should only just be approaching his peak. Van Basten looks like being Europe's leading striker for a few years to come.

ON THE STREETS

by IAIN MACLEOD

1970s felt to be something of a misnomer originated under another name as far as the 1930s.

It was another genius, Dr Willy Meisl of Austria, and, like Michels years ahead of his time who conceived the notion of rotation. Meisl wrote a classic book on the subject in which one chapter illustrated his revolutionary idea — he called it "The Whirl".

What Michels did back in the late 1960s and early 1970s was to refine the concept and adapt it accordingly to bring it in line with the greater demands of the modern game.

Michels, constantly looking for new ideas and variations on old themes also took from basketball the "pressing" tactic which operated on the simple notion that, whether or not you had possession, the most effective place was in the opposition's half.

In 1974, of course, Michels had at his disposal a side which certainly ranks in the all-time top three. What was remarkable this time was how the less gifted class of '88, almost became a carbon copy of the side they once idolised.

Whether you call it "Total Football" or "The Whirl", its success is dependent on one crucial factor: footballing intelligence. It was evident 14 years ago and, as Michels said of his present outfit: "We had the most intelligent side in the tournament.

"The golden tulips", as one Italian paper called the Dutch, blossomed at precisely the moment in the summer when it mattered most. And, having become European champions Holland, logically, must be one of the favourites for the 1990 World Cup in Italy.

But while the artists remain, the mentor has gone. Michels's untimely departure "to build for new challenges," at UEFA Cup holders, Bayer Leverkusen, for a sum reputed to be around £200,000 a year left the players somewhat deflated as the euphoria gave way to reality in the cold light of day.

And therein may lie a possible clue as to where the Dutch go from here. Michels had a unique understanding of a flexible system he had honed down to a fine art. But what of his successor, Thijs Libregts?

For I do not believe that Holland's European Championship victory and two World Cup final appearances in the 1970s were mere coincidences. They were, in fact, achieved under possibly the two finest coaches of the past 25 years: Michels, and the Austrian Ernst Happel, who once remarked that: "Football should be played 90 per cent with the head and 10 per cent with the feet."

Libregts, who enjoys little popular support in Holland, now has to coax the best out of the finest "thinking" footballers in the world. It is an onerous task.

For the flexibility of Holland's tactics, although not truly as rotational as in '74, owed as much to Michels as to the players themselves. Holland, tactically, were fascinating to observe.

Michels emphasised that, "the development of a team is so perfect now that it is difficult for a player to have a star role such as in 1974." He was, of course, referring to Ruud Gullit, who fell foul of Libregts some years ago. So, a kind of peace will have to be made if Holland's development, which faces a stern test in Munich on October 19, when West Germany

● continued on page 49

GASCOIGNE . . . £2 million outsider.

COULD any committee have made more of a mess than Bobby Robson, the Great Somnambulist, did of his England team against Ireland in Stuttgart, when he absurdly left Glenn Hoddle out of the line up and allowed Ireland to stroll their way untroubled through the first half?

Once he came on, of course, the music changed, England bombarded the Irish goal, and only the brilliance of Bonner kept them out.

With Ireland so limited in attack, it was exactly the kind of game in which using Hoddle was no risk (in my view, the "risk" lies precisely in not using the only English player capable of providing an unexpected pass.)

As Hoddle showed as soon as he came on, his very presence enabled England to dictate the play, so that Irish attacks became negligible. True, a back four as poor as England's (look at that awful goal) is badly in need of protection, but there are limits.

Brave

A committee might even have added Tottenham's £2 million newcomer Paul Gascoigne to the squad. I am sure that had he been brave enough to base his present team on the under-21 squad which did so well under his management.

With it, he qualified for the Euro Finals, even if in Brescia one did have the pleasure of seeing poor, put upon Ian Rush superbly win the game for Wales. The Italian team was the youngest in West Germany; Vicini has said all along that he was building for the Italian World Cup of 1990.

What is Bobby Robson building for? And what is it, over the decades, that makes England's managers and selectors turn their back on talent in favour of the industrious pedestrian, who sends his passes by second class mail? How is it that they discard the Charlie Buchans, Len Shackleton's and Glenn Hoddles in favour of the predictable likes of Webb and McMahon? Can it be precisely because they *are* predictable?

Gascoigne may or may not become a successful international player; you can tell only by trying him. But even if he may not be very fast, he has touch, control, ingenuity, a splendid right footed shot, not least from free kicks — as we saw in Lausanne — and a temperament which relishes challenge at whatever level.

If Bobby Robson cares, as one must presume he does, about the 1990 World Cup, Gascoigne should long ago have been getting the experience he will need then.

Feeling

There are, I know, those who strongly disagree with me, among them well established sports journalists, and at least one European under-21 manager of renown. Their feeling is that Gascoigne is too self-indulgent, already overweight at the age of barely 21.

Not easy criticisms to dismiss, yet I believe that Gascoigne has, given proper direction and discipline, the confidence on the field (rather than off it), the technique and the invention to contribute to the international team in time. Let us, at least, have a look.

Over the horrific performance of the England defence against Russia, perhaps it is kindest to draw a veil. Any Sunday park side would deserve to be horsewhipped for conceding the kind of goals, the kind of chances, England so abjectly did.

When the Russia stopper, Kuznetsov, metamorphoses into a deadly purveyor of through balls — which he twice applied to Protasov — there must be something horrifically wrong. The goal Michailichenko was allowed to score, laying the ball off then racing on unopposed to head in the cross, was another nightmare.

Salt was rubbed in the wound by the way

HODDLE DELAY WAS CRITICAL

Jack Charlton used his slender resources to make Ireland so much more impressive and resilient a team than England. What would have happened had the managers been changed?

But then, again, it may well be that England will be out of international football for years to come, so that it will not matter whether Bobby Robson or Mickey Mouse manages the team. And English football, excluded so long from Europe, will slide into a new, dark age. Wimbledon will rule, and it will emphatically not be okay.

CONGRATULATIONS to Graham Kelly on being chosen to succeed Ted Croker, at the Football Association.

We should all, I think, be grateful that at least the FA have chosen a likeable football man to do the job. The horrific implication of their crass advertisement, calling for a business executive over the age of 48, chilled the blood. At least we have not been landed with someone like that, or a crank of a coach.

Kelly is a decent, kindly, deeply reasonable fellow, whose views and opinions at the Football League have always seemed thoroughly sensible. What he has not been able to do, as I am sure he would be the first to admit, is to put most of them into practice.

The freedom of action of an FL secretary, even an FL management committee, has always been stringently limited by the deadweight of the clubs, those arch conservatives.

Kelly is not over the age of 48; a stipulation, it has been pointed out, which would have in 1934 excluded the late Sir Stanley Rous then, as a famous referee and a humble (though not for long) Watford schoolmaster, he was elected to the purple.

Could it be that the Old Men of the FA have chosen Kelly because they think him a mild man who will give them a quiet life? If so, I hope he will surprise them. He should have a good deal more opportunity in his new job to take bold decisions, and the regime he follows has been neither a popular nor an especially effective one. Having reviewed Ted Croker's egregious biography, I shall leave it at that.

Not that I can ever see Kelly becoming a Rous; such an autocratic figure may not wholly belong to the past, but I imagine the FA will do its very best to see that it does not reoccur in the future.

Perhaps you will forgive me if I repeat a story I have already told in these columns.

On the evening when, in 1962, Denis Follows became the compromise appointment as Secretary, made to keep out Rous's favourite son, Walter Winterbottom, I was called to Broadcasting House to interview Follows for Radio 4.

Before we went into the studio, Follows said, with great self-righteousness: "The secretary is the servant of the Football Association, and we all know what happened in the past, don't we? The servant became the master!"

And just as well. If a camel is a horse designed by a committee, then the dear old freeloaders of football administration will bumble on to eternity evading the decisions they should take, and fudging those they do.

As soon as Kelly gets his feet under the table, even if he doesn't wear Rous's huge,

by BRIAN GLANVILLE

white, intimidatory working cuffs, I hope he will show that he means to be master. And not put up with the kind of inept, deplorable decision which landed London with an England-Scotland game played on a Saturday, with all the predictable consequences.

Yet talking of committees, let us not forget that for most of its existence, selection committees picked the England team, and for most of that time, at least so far as foreign opposition was concerned, the England team did surprisingly well.

Of course there were trade-offs and compromises. Once, it was said, the committee picked, in goal in the 1950s, Hopkinson of Bolton because they thought it was Hodgkinson of Sheffield United; or was it the other way round? Walter Winterbottom, who kept his job as team manager, come what come might, from 1947 to 1962, groaned under committee restraints, yet when he got his own way in the Swedish World Cup in 1958 — as all of us there knew — he stubbornly picked teams which were clearly inadequate, then in the decisive match against Russia threw Brabrook and Broadbent in at the deep end, as debutants.

FOR quite a while now, I have been resisting the temptation to write, in these pages, about a question I am perpetually being asked: why I no longer read my tales about football on the Morning Story programme, of Radio 4, on the BBC.

Time and again, over the past year or two, people approach me for an explanation, and they come from the most diverse backgrounds. A Labour MP. Football fans. A Dorset country housewife. Muriel Bowen (not once, but whenever I meet her) the former local government correspondent of *The Sunday Times*.

I wish, in fact, they wouldn't ask and wouldn't be so kind about the stories; as I explain to them, it merely twists the knife. When, some time ago, I was invited to lunch at the House of Commons by Tom Pendry, chairman of the House of Commons football committee, and he asked me The Question in his turn, he was surprised and disappointed to hear the stories had been stopped.

With no prompting from me, he said he would write to Radio 4 to express his regret; and he in due course received yet other explanations, to place, confusingly, alongside those I had already heard.

The first of these was that there had been "complaints." What these complaints were, who made them and on what grounds, I have never been told. Perhaps, in this presumed new age of *glasnost* at the BBC, one day or another they will be revealed to me.

I have to take it on trust that they were in fact expressed. What I do not have to take on trust is the infinity of positive comment, by word of mouth and by letter, that I myself have received.

When something as new and as unaccustomed as these football stories appears on a long established programme, perhaps it is natural that some regular listeners won't like it. But every newspaper in the world gets its "complaints". It then balances them out against positive responses, and the reaction, or lack of it, of the Silent Majority.

Another criticism made known to me was that the stories were becoming "repetitive." Perhaps there is basis for it; as the author of them, how can I know? But such a stigma must somehow be reconciled with the strange fact that several stories which were accepted and bought, one which was actually recorded TWICE, were never broadcast.

The Massage was a tale about football-playing Italian prisoners of war which I recorded, only for the tape to be accidentally wiped. Were the producer dissatisfied with the story, here was his opportunity to consign it to limbo.

Not a bit of it. He apologised, and got me to read it again. You may essay your own guess as to why this and other accepted stories were not broadcast. The producer responded that he had heard or read them again; and "hadn't like them."

Another explanation; given to Mr Pendry. "We must make room for new writing." What new writing? The essence of the Morning Story programme, however good at times, is that it has found it singularly hard to find or attract new writing of any quality. By and large, by far the best stories have been those shrewdly selected by the producers from distinguished writers of the past.

All false modesty aside, apart from myself, I do not know of any writer with any literary standing who has regularly contributed to Morning Story. Whom, with writing which in its nature was manifestly new, had I been keeping out? I am sure many fiction publishers would be eager to know. (By the way, readers of *World Soccer* are well placed to make their own judgments, since a number of the stories have appeared in these pages).

Next explanation: the programme must think of its women listeners. Bored to death, the implication is, by these quintessentially masculine episodes. But as you will have gathered, this is arrant rubbish. Perhaps the most pleasing responses came from women, precisely because I knew that if *they* enjoyed them, I had by definition broken out of the narrow range of pro football and its followers; even if many of these, inside and outside the game, has responded so warmly.

This is no tirade against Radio 4, a programme to which I have every cause to be grateful. So I write not in anger, no longer even in sorrow, but in simple bewilderment. What precisely has been going on? *Glasnost*, if it is ever to mean anything (a very big if, in Russia) must surely safeguard a man from being condemned without a fair trial.

Closed ranks and conflicting explanations leave one disappointed and baffled. I am sorry I cannot be more explicit or lucid. And I have little hope the stories will ever run again on Radio 4.

ARSENAL 1930s

X
X X X
X X X X X

HUNGARY 1950s

X
X X X
X X X
X X X

BRAZIL 1958 – 4-2-4

X
X X X X
X X
X X X X

BRAZIL 1962 — 4-3-3

X
X X X X
X X X
X X X

ENGLAND 1966 – 4-4-2

X
X X X X
X X X X
X X

by KEIR RADNEDGE

ARSENAL, Hungary, Brazil and Holland — these are the four major milestones along football's tactic highway. Not Holland 88, that is, but Holland 74 — although the current European champions could not have evolved without the developments of the previous decade. It is no coincidence that Rinus Michels managed both.

For different reasons, in different eras, these four teams represented major developments in strategy. And, because Brazil and Holland were seen at their zenith in World Cup tournaments thanks to television, it is popularly expected that each succeeding international competition should produce something dramatic, something new.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Which is why the world at large should not be disappointed that no tactical astonishment emerged from the European finals in West Germany.

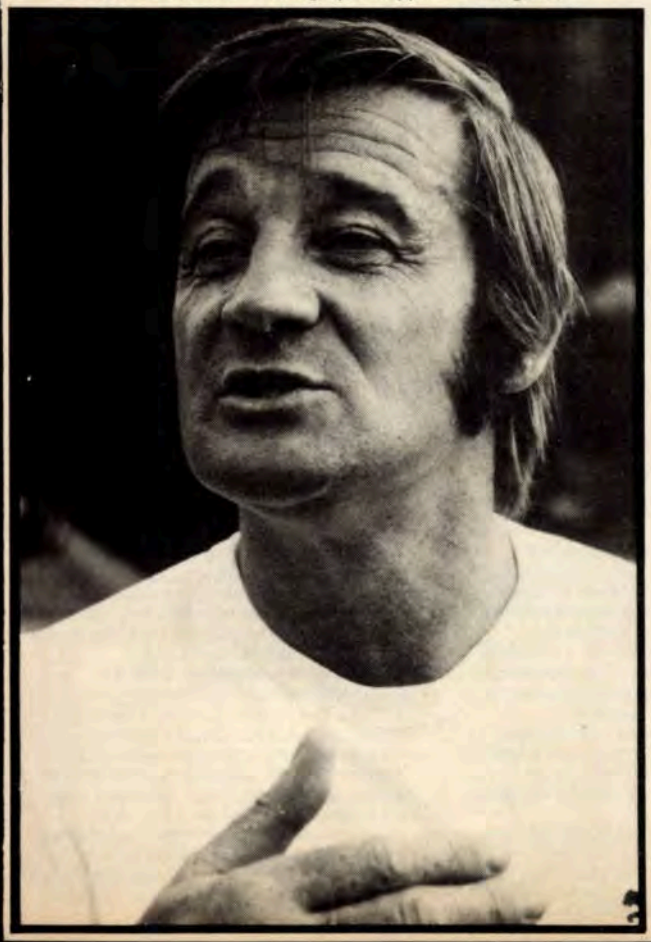
Tactical revolutions do not "happen" in the finals tournaments of World Cups or European championships, any longer. If Franz Beckenbauer (West Germany) or Michels or Miguel Munoz (Spain) has come up with some wonderful new idea he would not have waited until June to unveil it. That would have meant risking misunderstanding, ridicule and instant dismissal.

Arsenal provided the focus for the first modern tactical revolution in the late 1920s when communications were in their (comparative) infancy. There were no television slow-motion techniques to analyse and expound overnight the switch from the old-fashioned attacking centre-half to a stopper centre-back.

Arsenal's great manager, Herbert Chapman, and his deep-thinking inside forward, Charlie Buchan, had wanted to adjust their tactics to the change in the offside rule (from three to two defenders). They came up with the stopper centre-back and they had an eternity of league matches in which to perfect their plan.

How slowly ideas travelled then! Italy, that most alert of European football nations, did not switch to the stopper as well until well after the 1934 World Cup. And Austria went on into the early 1950s with the old attacking centre-half. But then, they were blessed with its last great exponent in Ernst Ocwirk.

GYULA LORANT . . . Hungary's stopper — vintage '53.



Artistic

It was in the early 1950s that Hungary found the antidote to Arsenal. In the central European game of the 1920s and 1930s the centre-forward was not only goal-scorer but artistic director, in the style of the great Austrian Mathias Sindelar, and the Hungarian, Gyorgy Sarosi.

In the late 1940s, as tactical thinking naturally accompanied the progress of professionalism, so Hungarian coach Guzstav Sebes — literally — saw through Chapman's WM and its inherent defensive gaps. Sebes pulled his centre-forward deep and pushed his inside forwards up front, goal-side of the wing halves who were supposed to be marking them.

An object lesson in the obselscence of the WM was provided on the day Hungary ended England's unbeaten record against continental opposition and won 6-3 at Wembley. England's centre-back that day, Harry Johnson, never played for his country again. But he was not to blame. "Fault" lay merely with the outdated system — and the inflexible thinking which went with it.

Five years later Brazil won the World Cup in Sweden with a wonderful team displaying a new tactic, christened 4-2-4. Four men in line in defence; two in midfield; four up front. To the rest of the world this was dramatic and new. But it wasn't new to the South Americans, Brazilian and Uruguayan clubs had been playing a version of this formation for several years since it had been first formalised in the early 1950s by Flamengo of Rio.

Europe copied 4-2-4 slavishly — all except the Italians, who had already perfected a defensive formation nicknamed catenaccio (the bolt), based on a system used in Switzerland by an Austrian coach named Karl Rappan and "improved" by Alfredo Foni at Internazionale and Nereo Rocco at Padova.

The 1960s saw variations on the 4-2-4 theme. Brazil, themselves, in 1962, moved to strengthen the midfield by withdrawing into midfield the left-winger, Mario Zagalo. Then England, in 1966, in a further defensive move, abandoned wingers altogether and pulled another forward (Alan Ball) back into midfield. That was 4-4-2, which has dominated the league game around the world over the past 15 years. Western Europe, Argentina, Uruguay, even Brazil, have embraced the style.

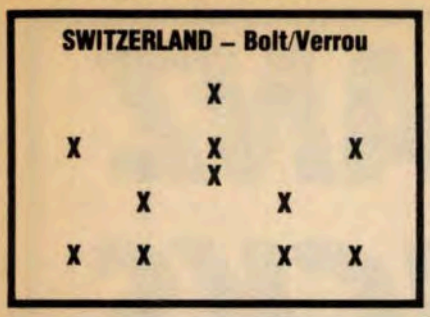
Holland's wonderful total football of the 1974 World Cup was less a tactical movement, more a diversionary tangent. It was brilliant but it depended on a physical mobility and tactical intelligence granted to few players. It was just Holland's good luck to benefit from the rise of a one-off generation of super-fit, super-intelligent footballers epitomised in the various phases of play by Johann Cruyff, Johan Neeskens and Rudi Krol.

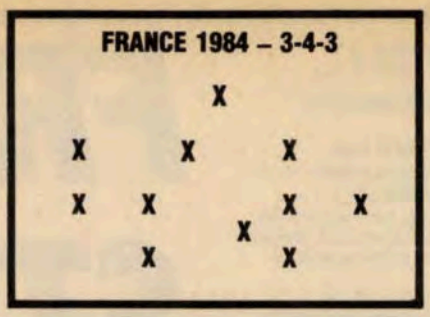
Power

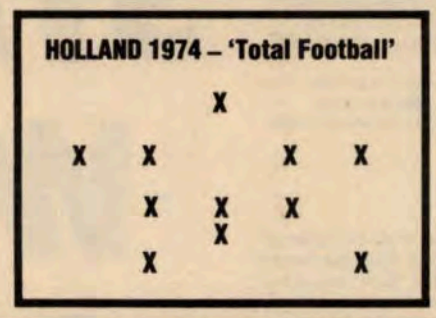
In the 14 years since total football, the pace and power of the game has improved to such an extent that the 1974 Dutchmen would probably be outrun. Sad, but true.

Considering all the tactic stages the game has gone through, there is obviously less and less room for inovative manoeuvre. But the 1984 European championship finals proved that tactical thinking was still alive and well with the adjustment to 3-5-2.

With most teams using only two forwards. it was obviously wasteful to police them with four defenders. So one was released — notably by







TACTICS THEN . . . AND NOW

France, West Germany, Denmark and Spain — to bolster midfield. In French terms that means the attacking full-back Manuel Amoros, although manager Michel Hidalgo's plans on this direction were somewhat upset when Amoros was sent off against Denmark in the opening match.

In league football safety-first is what counts. Teams start with at least one point and defend it. But in top-level international competition matches have to be won. So a greater versatility is demanded. Argentina demonstrated the point at the last World Cup. Through force of circumstances — injuries and suspension — manager Carlos Bilardo fielded three centre backs (Brown, Cuciuffo and Ruggeri) and five midfielders (Giusti, Batista, Olarticoechea, Burruchaga and Enrique). In the Final Argentina's 3-5-2 was technically and tactically superior to the West German 5-3-2 which had been formulated defensively to protect the Europeans from the wearying efects of playing at altitude.

So, to Euro '88.

Watching the European game week in, week out, it is clear that there are no major alterations in tactical approach. Merely variations on a theme: for example, the Dutch have developed an attacking sweeper. But that is hardly new. West Germany's manager, Franz Beckenbauer, was the first of that breed back in the late 1960s and the 1970s. He was also the best and it was ironic that "his" West Germany should have been beaten in the European semi-finals by a Dutch team inspired by Frank Rijkard and Ronald Koeman — whose centre-back styles owe everything to Beckenbauer himself.

Viewer

Watching the finals for new developments must have been hard on the television viewer. The little box provides a wonderful second-hand opportunity to share the thrills and spills of a match. But it cannot help the discerning viewer grasp fully the tactical and technical aspects. The cameras concentrate in narrow focus on the ball and cannot help but miss the selfless work continuing elsewhere on the pitch.

For example, the deceptive grace and tactical commonsense of Ruud Gullit is at its most dangerous when put to accelerating use outside the immediate vision of play. All of a sudden the TV viewer sees him in position to attack goal. But the genius of the man will most likely have been most evident off the ball — and off the screen.

That's why goalkeeping reputations are made and broken so regularly in big events. In the camera lens they are simplistically revealed as hero . . . or villain. There is no inbetween. So the Soviet skipper, Rinat Dasayev, was a hero. There he was (usually), in place on his line to catch a header or a free kick, making it seem easy. Do not be misled. A goalkeeper who is repeatedly caught leaping and diving around his penalty box may provide a television spectacular. But to his team-mates he will be less of a star, more of a liability.

Look for the individual rather than the tactics. But watch out for that man just flickering along, cruising on the fringe of play. He could be the one who turns up at the end of the move to prove a winner for both his team — and a world of spectators.

Just like Marco Van Basten. having checked the video, he wasn't in camera shot when Arnold Muhren hit that superb angled pass across the Soviet penalty box. But there he was, in place, to score one of the greatest goals in the competition's history. Right out of the blue.

Or was it?

If there is any new tactic, it is the tactic of surprise — a much more cerebral art, in which one set of tacticians try to double-guess the opposition and come up with the chess gambit which gains a decisive split-second advantage perhaps once in a game.

And once, when you have a man on top of his shooting game like Van Basten, can be sufficient.

DASAYEV . . . hero of the Soviet Union.

FRANZ STICKS WITH SAME SQUAD

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

FRANZ BECKENBAUER will tackle the World Cup qualifiers with virtually the same West German squad which fell at the European Championship semi-finals.

That defeat against Holland was not regarded as a flop, but was put down to a combination of bad luck, injury problems in defence (Buchwald, Herget) and some bizarre refereeing. On the whole the Germans played as well as their fans expected.

Beckenbauer even claimed they performed against the Dutch, the eventual winners, of the title, "better than in most recent internationals."

That is one reason why not too many changes are expected when the Germans start their bid to reach the World Cup finals two years hence in a tough group with . . . Holland, Wales and Finland.

Generally it is admitted that the Dutch had the superior technicians — the Germans are obviously short on class players though captain Lothar Matthäus and striker Jürgen Klinsman certainly enhanced their reputations.

Shabby trick

The Germans were, incidentally, accused of a shabby trick. On the eve of the Holland game midfielder Pierre Littbarski was told he would not start the game; his place would be taken by striker Frank Mill. But "Litti" was named in the starting line-up and preparing to warm up. He was then "withdrawn" with alleged stomach pains to fool the Dutch. Later he was sent on as a substitute!

Among the bevy of coaches, experts and technical personel the opinion of Otto Rehhagel, team manager of new champions Werder Bremen, is worth noting: "Holland were clearly the better team. No excuses are necessary and they would indeed be pointless. Our team did not play badly and didn't disappoint and it is no shame to have lost such a great match.

"We have reached the maximum of our capabilities and must now realistically appraise the situation. There is a shortage of class players and that is why we're lagging behind the Dutch and the Italians. This defeat was a warning shot at the right time. We shouldn't expect too much in the World Cup qualifiers. German football must now look to new names and for new ideas."

The specialised Press are suggesting that Echstein and Wuttke should be given a chance, while Völler and Allofs, when 100 per cent fit, could also still play important roles in attack. It is generally accepted that a complete rebuilding of the national side is not necessary. And it is probably too late to comtemplate.

On August 31 the West Germans must play Finland away in Helsinki and need the points badly in this tough World Cup group. Out of the four contenders only one nation are certain to get to Italy.

Beckenbauer is expected to add just one or two players to the squad. Players like Klinsman are wanted, those without frills, willing, dynamic and determined to succeed. The spirit of the Olympic team is needed in the ranks of the seniors.

Automatically barred

Against Finland the manager will not be able to use the 'Olympians' because those who play in the World Cup will be automatically barred from performing in Seoul. After the Games all candidates will be available.

One of Germany's most respected coaches Dettmar Cramer, in charge of the European Championship technical commission which analysed the tournament, reminded the experts that they "should stop talking about defensive, or attacking football but now about defensive *and* attacking concepts. The modern defender must be able to control and use the ball just as well as the midfielders and attackers and vice versa."

"The three basics demanded of progressive footballers are today: 1, Running at the ball, at the opposition and into space. 2, Winning the ball — in this aspect the Dutch were dominant. 3, Control of space and time. The space is being constantly reduced, the pace increased. The team that speeds up and slows down the game at the right time will always have the initiative.

"The Soviets came nearest to the Dutch in this aspect of the game, but they are still vulnerable when the tide is running against them. The Germans have come nearer to the balance between attack and defence. There was no problem to switch from attack to defence. But they took too long to turn defence into attack."

Denied report

Beckenbauer has denied a report that he was about to accept an offer to join the United States federation — at least before the World Cup finals in Italy. Beckenbauer says: "I have a contract with the DFB until 1990 and I am looking forward to honouring that. After 1990, anything can happen."

With his reputation in the US, built up during his years with New York Cosmos, Beckenbauer is considered — even at this distance — as a likely candidate to head the Americans' team management squad for 'their' World Cup in 1994.

One reason for Beckenbauer's open-minded attitude on the future has been the heavy criticism to which he has been subjected by several former team-mates — most notably Paul Breitner.

They were World Cup and European Cup-winning team-mates with West Germany and Bayern Munich in 1974. But Breitner, in a series of stinging newspaper columns, pulled no punches in criticising Beckenbauer's style, approach, tactics and team selections during the European finals.

KLINSMANN . . . one of Beckenbauer's few successes.

John Robinson of The Soccer Bookshelf and Anton Rippon of Breedon Books announce a new journal devoted to the history and statistics of Association Football.

More than a magazine . . .

THE FOOTBALLER

The Journal of Soccer History and Statistics

will be a welcome addition to the libraries of football followers everywhere

A large format (210mm x 297mm) periodical with a heavy-duty full-colour laminated cover and with 50 profusely-illustrated pages. ***The Footballer*** will be published six times a year and, initially, will be available only by subscription.

Issue No. 1 (out now) contains

When USA Shocked the World — interviews with members of America's 1950 World Cup team
Frank Broome on England in Germany, 1938
Ghosts of the League — Aberdare Athletic
How the Championship was Won 1927-28
The Day Raith Rovers were Shipwrecked
Soccer Legend — Alex James
Joe Bacuzzi on Moscow Dynamos' 1946 tour
History of the Football League — Part One
Eire's European Championship Record
Real Madrid v Eintracht — 1960 European Cup Final
How the FA Cup was Won 1934
European Championships — The 1960 Competition
The 1966 World Cup — A Complete Record
The Game Without a Shot at Goal
Newport County — The Years of Struggle
Fife's Scottish League Clubs pre-1939
Soccer's Bleak Midwinter — 1962-63
1888 Canadian Tour to UK

Annual Subscription: £17.70 plus postage (postal rates: UK £3.60; overseas surface £6.90; overseas airmail £12.00).
(Sample copy only may be obtained price £2.95 plus postage (UK 60p; overseas surface £1.15; overseas airmail £2.00)

Complete the form below and send to **The Footballer, 72 St Peter's Avenue, Cleethorpes, DN35 8HU, England.** *Cheques and POs payable to* **'Sports Promotions (International) Ltd.'**

Special Offer to World Soccer Readers
Issue No. 1 FREE when you take out a one-year subscription, from Issue No. 2.

Please send me one year's subscription/sample copy of The Footballer by UK post/overseas surface/overseas airmail

Name .....

Address .....

.....

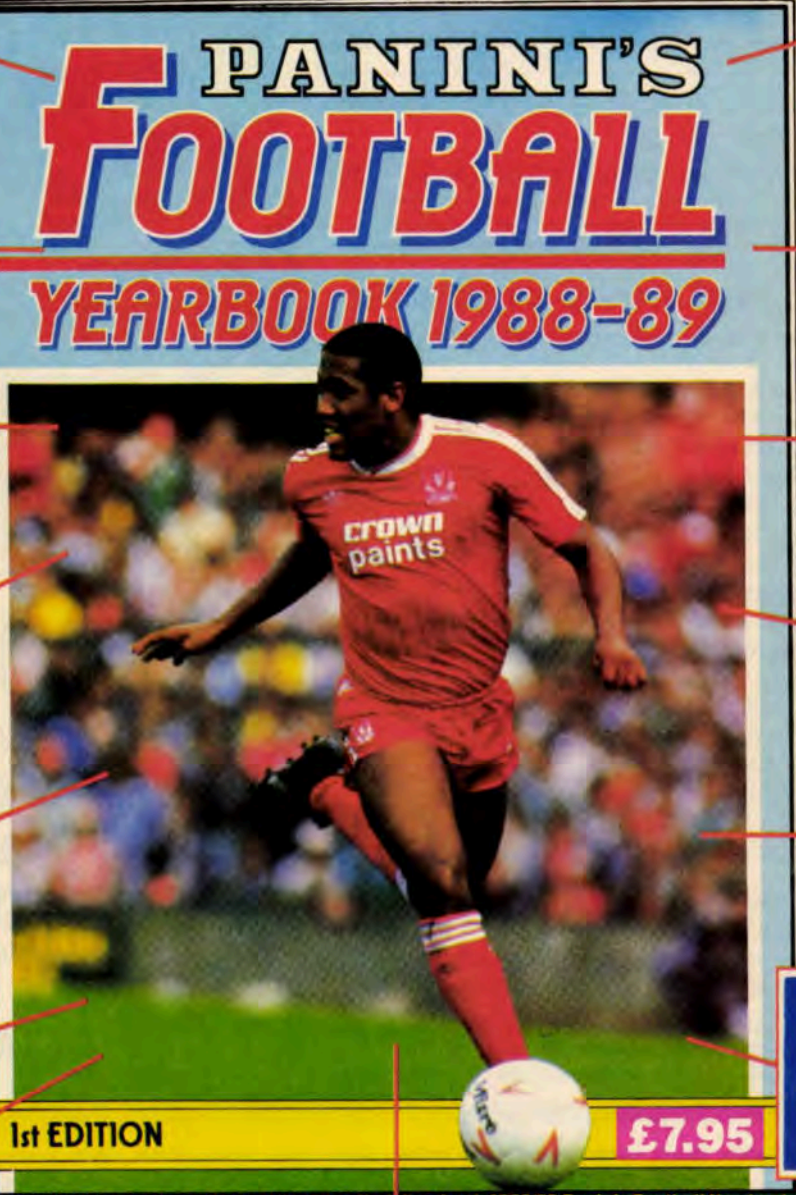
I enclose Sterling cheque/cash/postal order for £21.30 (UK post)/£24.60 (overseas surface)/£29.70 (overseas airmail)/£3.55 (sample UK)/£4.10 (sample overseas surface)/£4.95 (sample overseas airmail)
or debit my Credit Card No. ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ WS1
Access/Master Card☐ Barclaycard☐ American Express☐

Signature ..... Expiry Date .....

A PHOTOCOPY OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED

New for 1988/9 FROM

PANINI



European & International Football

768 Pages

Fixtures

Laws of the Game

Player Directory England & Scotland

Illustrated throughout

Club Directory England & Scotland

International Appearances For England, Scotland, Wales, N. Ireland & Eire since 1872

League Tables 1987-88

All Cup Results

South American Football

Olympic Football

Scottish Football

1990 World Cup Draw with Detailed European Fixture List

Football's Best Value Reference Book

The only Reference Book you'll need this Season

Edited by Peter Dunk

ON SALE MID AUGUST

AVAILABLE AT ALL GOOD BOOKSHOPS

VICINI HAS THE TOUGHEST JOB

ITALY didn't make it to the Final of the European championship. But manager Azeglio Vicini did.

by KEIR RADNEDGE

I know because he overtook me on the steep staircase leading up through the seating in the centre of the main stand in the Munich Olympic stadium. Up went Vicini, two at a time, hardly recognised by the fans (and many of the journalists) already in their seats.

When Vicini takes out his horn-rimmed spectacles and throws over his shoulders a raincoat which looks like one of Harold Wilson's cast-offs, no-one could look less like a football manager.

He doesn't possess the sharp, dark suits or haunted smiles of so many of the Italian league coaches, their ambitions and ideals crushed by the realities of collecting league points or the sack. And yet Vicini is in the toughest job of all.

Tougher, for example, than Arrigo Sacchi at Milan, whose tactical courage was of enormous help to Vicini in plotting Italy's European championship bid. Sacchi, when he arrived at Milan a year ago, was a comparative unknown. He had nothing to lose, except his job. No vast reputation to protect. Nothing to defend.

Vicini, on the other hand, carries the sporting aspirations of a nation on his shoulders. And few nations can make that such an onerous, emotional responsibility as the Italians. Vittorio Pozzo, in the 1930s, set a high standard — winning two successive World Cups — which no-one since then has come close to matching.

Probably the next best was Enzo Bearzot, a World Cup-winning manager in 1982 and eliminated in the second round four years later in Mexico. There are those who say that Pozzo had nothing like the pressure with which Bearzot had to cope. But Pozzo did, after all, have Mussolini looking over his shoulder and no doubt that was quite intimidating enough in that day and age.

Vicini now follows in Pozzo's footsteps. Pozzo, in 1934, guided Italy to a World Cup triumph on home soil. Vicini, in two years' time, will be expected to do the same. Judging by the Italian displays in West Germany, it will be a surprise if they fail.

All Italy lacked in the European finals — most notably and fatally in the semi-final defeat by the Soviet Union — was experience in front of goal. Gianluca Vialli, skilful quick and brave, wasted a number of chances throughout the finals which must have made Alessandro Altobelli's hair stand on end.

Altobelli appeared only as a substitute, of course. Vicini explained that the Inter veteran no longer had the legs to start so many matches in such a short space of time. But Vicini also emphasised how important it is to have such experience available on the subs' bench. Altobelli proved the point wonderfully when he scored within 27 seconds of coming on against Denmark.

Managers need luck to succeed, and Vicini appears to possess it. Not only did Altobelli score within a minute of appearing as a substitute against Denmark, so did Luigi De Agostini a few minutes later in the same match.

With luck — or judgment — like that, no-one dare say that it is a drawback to have as national manager a man with no experience of coaching a major club in a career of almost 20 years.

The same was also said about Enzo Bearzot, whom Vicini succeeded after the 1986 World Cup. Vicini had been Bearzot's assistant for a decade and thus had shared in the glory of the 1982 World Cup. He had also steered Italy's youngsters to the final of the 1986 European under-21 championship, in which Italy lost unluckily to Spain in a penalty shoot-out.

Vicini's debut at the helm was for a friendly against Greece in the autumn of 1986. He quickly made his presence felt with his team changes. Out went World Cup veterans such as sweeper Gaetano Scirea, defenders Fulvio Collovati and Pietro Vierchowod, midfielder Antonio Di Gennaro and star winger Bruno Conti.

Also axed was Giovanni Galli, the much-criticised Milan goalkeeper who was held partly to blame for equalising goals which fell to both Bulgaria and eventual winners Argentina in their World Cup-ties in Mexico two years ago.

New faces included goalkeeper Walter Zenga of Inter as well as midfielder Roberto Donadoni of Milan and Roma skipper Giuseppe Giannini — who was outstanding in the 1983 European youth championship in England.

Their subsequent development has underlined how right was Vicini's judgment: proof that a man need not have been an international footballer to understand and organise them.

For Vicini never played for Italy. Indeed, he was the only one of the European championship finals managers not to have played at full international level.

Born in Cesena in 1933 he began with local team Cesenatico (amateurs) in 1949 then joined Cesena in the fourth division in 1952. A year later he was bought by Lanerossi Vicenza, made his first division debut two years later and then moved on again to Sampdoria of Genoa.

Originally an outside right with speed and intelligence, Vicini spent seven years in the Sampdoria midfield before moving down a grade to Brescia and then retiring in 1967.

Seven appearances for the Italian army team were the closest Vicini came to international recognition.

Of all the players against whom he came up against, Vicini remembers the Italo-Argentine Omar Sivori (a Juventus star in the late 1950s and early 1960s) as the most dangerous he ever had to mark. Vicini says: "You could put him in your pocket for the entire game.

Then, in injury time, he would leave you standing and score the decisive goal. You had to applaud his skill and his artistry but , above all, the nerve of the man."

Soon after retiring Vicini was appointed first-team coach to Brescia in the first division. Then, a year later, came the career twist which sent him down to road of succession to Bearzot.

Vicini had heard all about the English Football Association coaching courses and wanted to take part. He was recommended and helped by Ferruccio Valcareggi — Italy's 1970 World Cup runners-up manager — and Gigi Peronace, who spent so much of his time shuffling between London and Rome maintaining the best of relations between the associations of England and Italy.

One year later those connections paid off when Vicini was offered a coaching job within the Italian federation. He has stayed ever since, managing the under-23s, the under-21s and the Olympic team.

Vicini says: "When I got the job with the federation I thought it would be good experience. I only planned to stay a couple of years. Now it's turned out to be a job for life."

In fact, once Vicini had settled to life within the federation's umbrella he nursed the ambition that one day he would follow in the footsteps of the likes of the legendary Vittorio Pozzo (World Cup-winning manager of 1934 and 1938), of the controversial Edmondo Fabbri and Helenio Herrera, and of the calm, clear-headed Bearzot.

Only once did Vicini come close to returning to the club world.

That was four years ago , after his Italian Olympic team was eliminated in the qualifiers and failed to reach Los Angeles. Vicini was bitter that the federation had not given him more support in terms of preparation, facilities and player availability.

He says: "I was tempted to quit. But though I have received a number of lucrative club offers during my time with the federation, none of them coincided with that low ebb in my career."

Vicini's appointment has proved popular with the media. A couple of stories about Vicini's respect for the press have long been told.

On one occasion, with the under-21s, a group of reporters wanted to interview the then Como midfielder, Gianfranco Matteoli, about a transfer story.

Matteoli had gone up to his room for an early night. But Vicini got him out of bed and dressed to face his questioners. On another occasion, behind the Iron Curtain, where communications are a perpetual problem, Vicini told his players: "Never mind phoning your girlfriends back home. Leave the phone lines clear for the journalists — they've got their work to do."

That honeymoon did not last much further. The Italian press are notoriously critical and impatient with their national team. A bad display, even in victory, is guaranteed to bring down a storm of abuse on the head of both players and manager.

Vicini admits that his judgment may not always be perfect. He deservedly has earned credit as the man who 'discovered' Juventus leftback Antonio Cabrini and Sampdoria forward Vialli, and gave them the chance at under-21 level to earn a place on the World Cup stage (in Cabrini's case in 1978, in Vialli's 1986).

But Vicini also admits: "My biggest mistake was to write off Claudio Gentile when he was a youngster. He was a good defender but he didn't look anything special. I never thought he could become one of the best in the game."

Vicini also admits to being a diplomat. He says: "I always want everyone to share the same point of view. That may be a fault in some people's book but, to me, I don't believe you will ever build a successful team without unity of purpose. That is what I want to achieve."

BRAZIL V AUSSIES

FROM unpromising beginnings, the Bicentennial Gold Cup — football's contribution to Australia's 200th birthday party — genuinely improved the status of a game which is still struggling to capitalise on its popularity Down Under.

The tournament was staged in five venues in four cities from July 6 to 17.

Four nations — Brazil, Argentina, Saudi Arabia and the hosts — took part. The format was a league basis with the bottom two playing off for third place, while the top two chased the Gold Cup and a first prize of $100,000.

Often such celebratory gatherings are encouraged to have a lighter touch. Matches have an exhibition feel to them.

In evaluating the tournament, particularly one stunning result, it is important to emphasise that this competition was played in a serious vein.

The point is clear when you look back at the circumstances of the four squads at the outset of the cup.

Brazil's target was to continue their re-building for the World Cup qualifying round matches next July with more than a passing thought for the now very serious Olympic Games programme.

Muller — now with Torino — and Benfica's Valdo were the only European- based players selected but their FA President, Octavio Guimaraes, was quick to point out: "We consider European-based players are a disruptive influence on our national team.

"They are unavailable for correct preparations, seek better conditions and look down on the poorer local-based players.

"Only Careca and Julio Cesar of those not with us would be considered for our 1990 World Cup team."

Argentina lacked Maradona for the first time since before their World Cup triumph in Mexico. Burruchaga was unfit, Valdano has retired.

Of the new breed, the Italian transfers of Caniggia and Troglio ruled them out. But Ruggeri, Olarticoechea, Cuciuffo, Batista, Giusti and Enrique — World Cup winners all — were in Carlos Bilardo's selection along with Mexico '86 squad men Islas, Garre and Clausen.

All 22 heard Bilardo's regular statements that he was starting his team construction for Italy 1990.

Saudi Arabia are still current Asian champions but that title is almost four years old and soon to be challenged.

Since then their effectiveness has declined, hence the appointment of Carlos Alberto Parreira, the articulate and charming Brazilian coach who guided Kuwait into England's World Cup group in Spain 1982.

In 1983 Parreira took charge of Brazil, his spell including the 1-1 draw with Wales in Cardiff.

Since then he's elevated considerably the standards of the United Arab Emirates before Saudi Arabia head-hunted him in April.

The Bicentennial Gold Cup was Parreira's first challenge in his new appointment, so his players had every incentive to impress.

No Australian team at any sport lacks the will to win.

For the target for their extrovert coach Frank Arok and his diligent Scottish assistant Eddie Thomson was to evaluate the improvement over the past five years — since Arok was thrown out of an England training session for 'spying' and Bobby Robson's men were left bruised if not beaten in a physical three-match series.

They too were sharpening up their act for Seoul.

The Gold Cup also offered a crash course in experience for Australian referees and linesmen, desperately short of top-quality matches to officiate in their own country.

Charlie Yankos of Australia.

JULY 6

Argentina (1) 3 (Diaz 2, 27, 50 pen)
Saudi Arabia (1) 2 (Majed Abdullah 41, Diaz og, 61)

Argentina: Islas, Lorenzo, Lucca, Ruggeri (capt), Fabbri (Cuciuffo), Cabrera, Giusti, Diaz, Lanzidei, Dertycia (Aquino), Rodriguez.

Saudi Arabia: Diayye, Saad Break, Zaki, Jameel, Abduljauad, Mutlak, Hireify, Moseibim, Suweid (Jaze), Majed Abdullah, Moheissin (Omar).

THE tournament's capacity to surprise was evident even in the opening match in Adelaide's Football Park, an Australian Rules bowl in which the spectacle was marred by the pitch marked out right in the centre instead of closer to the 10,000 crowd on the grandstand side.

With Pele the guest of honour, Argentina led twice but were pegged back on both occasions in a match never to be forgotten for the Rosano Central midfield player Herman Diaz.

Diaz struck the competition's first goal with a splendid first time shot following a precisely headed pass by Jose Luis Rodrigez.

When Diaz himself was hauled down by Zaki early in the second half his successful penalty gave the World Champions the lead for the second time.

But then he completed a most unusual "hat-trick" with a diving header in to his own goal in a spectacularly unsuccessful effort to clear a dangerous cross from Suweid.

Saudi Arabia's first equaliser also came from a header close to half- time, an excellent downward effort by the gifted Majed Abdullah, one of the surviviors from the Los Angeles Olympic squad and the Asian Cup adventure.

JULY 7

Australia (0) 0
Brazil (1) 1 (Romario 31)

Australia: Olver, Savor, Dunn, Yankos, Jennings, Davidson (Bozinovsky), Crino, Wade, Farina, Kosmina (Slater), Arnold.

Brazil: Taffarel, Jorginho, Azoisio, Ricardo II, Nelsinho, Geovani, Ademir (Milton), Valdo, Careca II (Edu II), Muller, Romario.

MELBOURNE'S Olympic Park produced a heavy pitch which disrupted the style of both sides.

Australia gave ample evidence of thier improvement in technique with Oscar Crino the game's outstanding player.

But 22-year old Brazilian goalkeeper Taffarel gave a mature performance, and in front of him centre-backs Aloisio and Ricardo II restricted the host nation to few chances to capitalise on their territorial supremacy.

The best opening came early in the second half, courtesy of a thrusting run down the left by Frank Farina. Paul Wade, a workaholic midfield player, met the cross cleanly but struck the rebound just too high after Taffarel had reacted superbly to parry Wade's first attempt.

By then Australia were a goal down. Romario, a reserve on last year's European tour, made the most of a 31st minute chance

The scoring touch, an extravagant flick, had the Brazilian stamp of quality but the goal was lucky because Nelsinho's mishit shot fell perfectly for Romario.

JULY 9

Australia (2) 3 (Ollerenshaw 6, Farina, 42, 81)
Saudi Arabia (0) 0

Australia: Olver, Savor, Dunn, Yankos, Jennings, Davidson, Crino, Wade, Farina (Bozinovski), Arnold (Slater), Ollerenshaw.

Saudi Arabia: Diayye, Saad Break, Zaki, Jameel, Abouljawad, Mutalk, Hireifi, Moseibih (Omar), Suweid, Majed Abdullah, Moheissin (Jaze).

THE encouragement Australia had gained from their challenging performance against Brazil bubbled over in a buccaneering display on a bare and bumpy pitch at Sydney's Parramatta Stadium.

John Kosmina had represented Australia for the 100th time (his 59th full international) two days earlier but his recurring hip problem forced Frank Arok into one change.

His replacement, 20-year-old Scott Ollerenshaw, took his opportunity so well that Kosmina could not win back his place.

Ollerenshaw had the perfect start, driving Australia into a sixth minute lead following an early cross from Graeme Arnold and an outrageous back- heel by Crino.

Saudi Arabia had complained about the playing surface before the game and although Dunn had to clear off the line, Parreira's

WIN BUT S SHINE

from MARTIN TYLER the ITV commentator covering the tournament for ABC television

team, so sharp on the break against Argentina, could not adapt.

Australia, on the other hand, could have hardly played better on a bowling green! Their only regret was a failure to take no more than two of a succession of chances.

Farina was the marksman on both occasions, pouncing three minutes before half-time when Diayye fumbled a 30-yard free-kick from Yankos and in the 81st minute he rammed home a clever pass from Robbie Slater.

Farina, the golden-boy of the golden-shirted Socceroos, certainly enhanced his claims for a lucrative transfer to Europe.

JULY 10

Argentina (0) 0
Brazil (0) 0

Argentina: Islas, Lorenzo, Lucca, Ruggeri, Garre, Batista, Cabrera (Dertycia), Giusti, Diaz, Siviski (Lanzidei), Rodriguez.

Brazil: Taffarel, Luis Carlos, Aloisio, Ricardo II, Torginho, Ademir, Geovani, Valdo, Careca II (Milton), Muller, Romario (Edmar).

ARGENTINA, in greater need of victory in the context of the competition, could not improve on a dismal sequence against Brazil which has produced just one win over their South American rivals since 1970.

The match had some tactical merit, but the Oympic Park pitch had still not dried out sufficiently to give the creative players the firm footing they needed to steer clear of some ruthless tackling.

Six players were cautioned by South Australian referee Don Campbell, only two Argentinians but for Giusti it was his second yellow card of the tournament. He would miss the next match against Australia.

Rodriquez headed narrowly over in the first half. Romario and Muller fashioned two sharp attacks in the second. But this was not a dish to whet the appetite of the predominantly neutral crowd. As always between Argentina and Brazil, the result was too important for that.

JULY 13

Brazil (3) 4 (Geovani 10 pen, 47 pen, Jorginho 28, Edmar 40)
Saudi Arabia (0) 1 (Majed Abdullah 65)

Brazil: Taffarel (Zecarios), Luis Carlos, Aloisio, R.Carido II, Jorginho, Ademir (Andrade), Geovani, Valdo, Edu II, Edmar, Romario.

Saudi Arabia: Diayye, Saad Break, Zaki, Jameel, Abduljawad, Multak, Hireifi, Moseibih (Omar), Suwaid (Tyuneyan), Majed Abdullah, Moheissin.

WITH Brazil virtually certain of a place in the final and the Saudis needing an unlikely two-goal victory to narrow the odds, the spice of this match in Melbourne came from the duel between the two coaches, the two Carlos Albertos.

Carlos Alberto Silva has been Brazil's coach on little better than a match-to-match basis, almost a last resort for the CBF when other options failed.

The strong tip in Australia from the usual vast army of media corps with Brazil is that Parreira will return next year to the job he held in 1983.

The incumbent, though, had the stronger army in this particular battle, refereed incidentally by Chris Bambridge, who had last been in charge of a Brazilian fixture in 1986 against Spain in the World Cup match with the Michel 'goal' episode.

Bambridge awarded Brazil two penalties this time, the first of which effectively ended the contest.

JULY 14

Australia (2) 4 (Wade 4, Yankos 42, 67 pen, Bozinovski 80)
Argentina (1) 1 (Ruggeri 31)

Australia: Olver, Savor, Dunn, Yankos, Jennings, Davidson, Bozinovski, Wade, Farina, Arnold, Ollerenshaw.

Argentina: Islas, Lorenzo, Lucca, Ruggeri, Garre, Batista (Monzon), Cabrera (Dertycia), Simeone, Diaz, Rodriquez, Aquino.

THIS was the result which had sports editors round the globe telephoning their reporters and agencies to make sure there had not been a misprint!

Again, in case of any misconception, I must stress that Argentina were not on a holiday. In truth, for an hour they were by far the better side, but on this historic night for the game Down Under, Australia really took their chances.

Both teams went into this match with two points from two games. Australia's better goal difference meant that a draw would be enough to pip the World Cup holders for a place in the final.

Carlos Bilardo still resisted the temptation to pack his side with survivors from Mexcio and Diego Simeone, 18, won his first cap on the right side of a midfield reshuffled by Giusti's suspension.

Australia's bubble was in danger of deflating when Oscar Crino was ruled out with a blood complaint. For Crino, who was born in Argentina, the complication allied to an ankle injury was desperately ill-timed.

But he bore the disappointment bravely, discharging himself from hospital and was watching from the bench on an unforgettable night for his team-mates.

Australia were even quicker off the mark than against Saudi Arabia. Ollerenshaw and Arnold applied the pressure in the fourth minute, Argentina panicked and Wade was left with an open goal.

Bilardo's team responded with their best football of the competition and the equaliser after half an hour was long overdue. Rodriquez pulled away at the far post to set-up a tap-in for Ruggeri.

Three minutes from half-time Australia's captain Charlie Yankos presided over a free-kick, just as he had against Saudi Arabia. Then he had needed the help of Farina to finish the job.

Not this time. From all of 35-yards the ball swerved and dipped past Islas. Australia had been outplayed but came in at the break leading 2-1.

Arnold, nominally the one central striker, was instructed to help his beleaguered midfield leaving the pacy pair of Ollerenshaw and Farina as the way forward in the second half.

After minutes of further Argentina pressure, the ploy worked perfectly. Farina did look offside as he broke clear close top the halfway line but he then cleverly lured Garre into a rash tackle and the tournament had yet another penalty.

Argentina, to a man, chased referee Gary Power. The delay would have broken lesser characters than penalty-taker Yankos and Islas was beaten to his left.

The Socceroos were at last on the map in their own country, where Australian Rules and Rugby League attracts much more publicity.

There was still time for Batista to commit a dastardly over-the-top tackle on Dunn and for Australia to exact the right type of revenge with a fourth goal.

Valdo Bozinovski had survived a testing first half as Crino's deputy and with minutes left he hurled himself at Wade's driven cross to make it 4-1.

JULY 16

Argentina (2) 2 (Simeone 4, Dertycia 23)
Saudi Arabia (0) 0

Argentina: Islas, Lorenzo, Lucca, Ruggeri, Cabrera (Lanzidei), Simeone, Giusti, Monzon, Diaz, Siuiski (Rodriguez), Dertycia.

Saudi Arabia: Marwan, Bander, Zaki, Jameel, Abduljawad, Mutlak, Moseibih (Sabayani), Omar (Bargan), Tyuneyan, Majed Abdullah, Khalid.

JUST 39 hours later, Argentina were in action again, ignominiously playing for third place in Bruce Stadium, Canberra.

It was an early opportunity to defuse some of the criticism still reverberating around Buenos Aires. But that opportunity, despite only their third win in 13 internationals since the World Cup, was hardly taken.

Simeone headed in a Diaz corner after four minutes and midway through the half, Diaz led the break from which Dertyc added a second. That was the end of the scoring although Argentina faced only ten men for the last 55 minutes of a contest which produced eight yellow cards and one red.

Salim Marwan had replaced Diayye in the Saudi Arabian goal but the oldest player in the tournament became the least responsible when he kicked out at Lucca and was sent off.

Moseibih was immediately substituted to allow the squad's number three goalkeeper Sabayani to come on but he was rarely tested. The situation confirmed the lack of top quality in a very ordinary Argentinian side.

Herman Diaz was a rare success but he ended on a low note by blazing a late penalty high over the bar.

JULY 17

Australia (0) 0
Brazil (0) 2 (Romario 56, Muller 67)

Australia: Olver, Savor (Bozinovsky), Dunn, Yankos, Jennings, Davidson, Crino, Wade, Farina (Slater), Arnold, Ollerenshaw.

Brazil: Taffarel, Jorginho, Aloisio, Ricardo II, Nelsinho, Andrade, Valdo, Geovani, Muller, Edmar (Luis Carlos), Romario.

THE new Sydney Football Stadium, alongside the cricket ground, was opened only this year.

Its futuristic design made it an appropriate setting for Australia's matches against Argentina and now Brazil in the Final of the Bicentennial Gold Cup.

There were unprecedented queues five hours before the kick-off and the attendance of 28,161 established a new ground record.

Even in defeat, the Socceroos did not let down the swelling ranks of their new fans.

The match was always absorbing but the significant episodes came between the 56th and 67th minutes.

Romario, the match winner in Melbourne ten days earlier, was the marksman again, scoring after 56 minutes.

Six minutes later, Jorginho hauled down Ollerenshaw as he sprinted clear and was admirably shown the red card by referee Campbell.

Brazil's protest lasted five minutes but when order was retored Romario and Muller quickly conjured another goal to restore their grip on the game.

DAZ
R

by JIM HOLDEN

AULD LANG SYNE rang round the Mungersdorfer stadium in Cologne to appropriately signal the passing of the dazzling Danes of the 1980s.

They had just lost 2-0 to resurgent Italy to finish the European Championships with the sad record of three defeats in three matches.

At least against Italy they showed some remnants of style. In the other matches against Spain and West Germany the celebrated Danish Dynamite side had exploded themselves.

Manager Sepp Piontek, the mastermind of a side which played some thrilling matches through the decade, admitted it was the end of an era.

He said: "I really hope we will be remembered as a team which showed the world how good football can be played. And I strongly believe that our fans showed the world how to behave and enjoy themselves at football matches."

After a tournament tormented in its first week by hooligan clashes, it was an important point. The carnival atmosphere in Cologne during the day and at the match in the evening was delightful.

Italian and Danish fans mingled famously around the town, the cathedral and the stadium.

The Danish 'roligans' have set an enviable standard. Would that English football grounds could find the joy, the enthusiasm, the civilised exuberance they display.

If the fans continued their happy soccer stay the Danish team certainly did not. The dynamism of previous years and tournaments had vanished leaving a team bankrupt of talent, ideas and spirit.

Of course, a major factor was the old age, in soccer terms, of the side.

Experience could not make up for tired legs and minds. And another major factor was unfortunate injury problems.

The talisman of the team was Preben Elkjaer, the bullish goalscoring striker from Verona. He was reduced to walking pace by tenditis and strolled sadly around in parody of his normal form.

Perhaps Piontek should not have played him even in the first two matches, but there was always the hope he could find one thrilling moment of form to swing a match.

More cruel, even, was the broken leg suffered by Frank Arnesen playing for PSV Eindhoven in the last match of the Dutch season. His fire and passion is always missed by the team. It was sad to see him walking around on crutches.

Captain and sweeper Morten Olsen also suffered cruelly in the championships, affected by dizzy spells and blinding headaches. He now has 99 caps for Denmark and the dynamite era will perhaps officially end when he wins his 100th and last cap on a celebration night somewhere.

Olsen will then become part of the national team management, with Piontek if he stays, or with present Olympic team boss Richard Moller Nielsen.

Finally, the form of midfielder Soren Lerby, a European Cup winner with Eindhoven, was left over the border in Holland. He was even more a parody of his old self than Elkjaer, his worst moment coming when he gave away the first goal against West Germany. He too was left out of the match against Italy.

Obviously the old team is dead. But what to make of the new side which took the field against the Italians and dredged up some spirit and a little style to give a faint light hope at the end of the tunnel?

Peter Schmeichel took over in goal from the hapless Troels Rasmussen and made two breathtaking saves to deny Mancini. He has the potential to be the Danes' best keeper since Birger Jensen.

In defence Lars Olsen impressed many as the new libero. Tall and powerful, he has potential.

Bjorn Kristensen of AGF proved a doughty stopper, although booked for one foul too many against the rampaging Italians. He is a player who might benefit from a couple of years polishing in a top European league.

The other defender, Ivan Nielsen, is 31 and was the best of the old guard. There seems no reason for the elegant, angular Eindhoven player to be discarded in the chase for a World Cup Finals place in 1990.

In midfield John Jensen showed why he was made Denmark's Player of the Year in 1987 with a driving, all-action performance. He could certainly be the motor of a new side, if not in the same class as Arnesen.

Jan Heintze was also all-action on the left of midfield, but as someone said he would be a useful player in a good team.

Neither Per Frimann of AGF nor Kim Vilfort of Brodby seem to have the class required for international level. Both have returned to Danish soccer from abroad, and it wasn't hard to see why.

The future may shine more brightly for teenagers Bjarne Goldbaek and Brian Laudrup.

But it is Laudrup's distinguished brother Michael on whom the future of Danish international football most heavily rests. He is one of the most talented players in the world and has the ability to be a great star.

In these championships he drifted pathetically through the first two matches, even given that he scored a fine goal against Spain.

Against Italy Laudrup suddenly flowered, as if free from the stifling influence of Lerby and Elkjaer, and was demanding the ball everywhere on the pitch, always

IRISH RE

by PAUL BUTTNER

JACK CHARLTON'S Republic of Ireland returned home from West Germany to a heroes' welcome.

Over a quarter of a million people lined the route from Dublin Airport cheering on the squad in their open-top bus to a congregation in the city's main O'Connell Street as they paid tribute to the splendid exploits of the Boys in Green in Euro 88.

For many the victory over England epitomised it all. However, the fact that the Republic were just eight minutes from eliminating the eventual champions Holland and reaching the semi final — and that both finalists came from Ireland's Group 2 — is an even bigger testimony to the great achievements of this Irish squad.

As they're saying all over Ireland . . . roll on Italia 90.

The baseless tag of underdogs (Ireland were, in fact, the 'form' team going into the finals) and the disgraceful reference to Ireland as the "Wimbledon of internataional football" were rightly thrown back in the face of uninformed, blinkered football journalism.

The plain facts of the matter were that with the availibility of Liam Brady and Mark Lawrenson (and Jim Beglin, too) this Irish squad could quite conceivably have won the tournament.

With better refereeing even that triumvirate might not have been needed.

Only Johan Cruyff, of serious foreign observers, gave Ireland any hope, because, as he'd said: "The Irish play to their strengths."

That they did but, sadly, sufficiently well in only one game . . . against the Soviet Union (1-1) in Hannover when they should have won the match but didn't.

That was a late evening match when it was much cooler and thus more conducive to the Irish chasing style of game.

Against England and Holland the Irish didn't play so well.

In Stuttgart, the stifling heat, as Charlton pointed out,affected his team more than England as their style was more workmanlike and thus more energy-sapping than England's.

In Gelsenkirchen, versus the Dutch, it wasn't quite as hot but Holland's superior technique allowed them to exploit the Irish tactics, gradually tiring the Irish out.

Also, for this match, Ireland needed just a draw and before that goal from Wim Kieft the Dutch had become increasingly frustrated and indisciplined, playing some desperate football.

Beating England, the great historical enemy, was something special for all Ireland.

Ray Houghton's sixth-minute goal, which saw the Irish fully highlight England's appalling defensive weaknesses, was undoubtedly the most savoured moment of the Irish campaign.

From then on, during that opening game, it was a long wait for the final whistle as England attacked and missed several good openings with Packie Bonner also making two exceptional saves.

"It was the longest 84 minutes I've ever sat through," said Charlton afterwards. "We got away with a little bit but that happens in football."

Back four

The Irish luck held and England were beaten. If that match demonstrated England's poor defence, it pointed out, too, a long-debated fault in the centre of Ireland's back four.

Gary Lineker several times left Mick McCarthy cold for speed off the mark, giving the Irish one or two heart-stoppping moments.

Serious critics in Ireland say McCarthy is one of Charlton's few mistakes.

They feel, and many share the view, that David O'Leary should be wearing the shirt currently occupied by McCarthy.

But Charlton bluntly refuses to even discuss O'Leary anymore because he simply isn't big Jack's type of centre-half and McCarthy looks likely to continue alongside Kevin Moran in the heart of the defence for the World Cup.

Against the Soviet Union in Hannover, Ireland undoubtedly played their best football. The Irish tactics, based on the best principles of the English first division game, totally upset the Soviets who had come frsh from their defeat of Holland.

Ireland dominated the first half, winning everything in midfield, chasing everything, closing down opponents leaving them no room in which to play.

Ronnie Whelan's spectacular goal, though mis-hit (it went in off his shin), was just reward for a splendid 45 minutes.

The second-half eventually saw the Irish slow down a little and the speed of foot, and thought, of the Soviet's twin strikers, Belanov and Protasov brought the equaliser which was scarcely deserved.

Roared on by 40,000 orange-clad fans, outnumbering the Irish four to one, with their superior individual technicians in Gullit, Van Basten and the splendid Rijkaard, the Dutch, though indisciplined as a team at times, had too much sheer skill for

ZZLING DANES EST IN PEACE

trying to make things happen.

If he can continue that commitment, Denmark will have something tangible, something inspiring on which to rebuild.

Laudrup is only 24, but already has 47 caps to his name. He does not have to be a member of a lost generation.

Neither, for that matter, do winger Jesper Olsen and midfielder Jan Molby. Both may benefit from a move away from the hurly burly of English league socer and could return to help mould a new side.

The new Denmark will also need goals.

Flemming Povlsen was a willing striker in the championships and scored with a header against Spain.

He's another player who showed promise which must now be fulfilled.

John Eriksen, at 30, is unlikely to be a long-term choice, and although he scores a host of goals for Servette in Switzerland, it is only the Swiss league.

Claus Nielsen seemed a good prospect for a while, but a transfer out of the European mainstream to Panathanikos in Greece does not augur well for him.

There seems to be no one else of the required standard except 17-year old wonderboy Ronnie Frederiksen. The Danes shouldn't expect too much of him too soon.

For the moment, it seems, Denmark have a clutch of players with potential, but only one or two left of genuine international class.

The future of Danish soccer is in the melting pot after a decade of unparalleled success by the international side and changes in the domestic league where professionalism has been introduced.

They need to qualify for the next World Cup to keep the cash rolling in, and the roligans interested.

"We are red, we are white, we are Danish dynamite," sang the fans long into the night in Hanover, Gelsenkirchen and Cologne, even though the team lost each time.

The fans deserve a new team to cheer. They are fans who would be a loss to the world of soccer if their team cannot command centre stage any longer.

RAY HOUGHTON . . . fearless.

BORN

the Irish.

Though, as everyone here will tell you, Van Basten was two yards offside when Ronald Koeman's shot was deflected past Bonner from Kieft's head.

Perhaps it was the lack of a highly talented individual (the Dutch had Van Basten and, to a lesser extent, Gullit), like a young Liam Brady, and skilful goalscorer, that put Ireland out.

Bonner, in goal, was for many the tournament's best keeper, while fullbacks, Chris Morris, on the right, and Chris Hughton, did their jobs reasonably well, though Morris I feel, still lacks a little defensively while Hughton is unlikely to get many more caps when Beglin returns to full fitness.

McCarthy we've discussed, which leaves Moran. Perhaps the better defender of the two if only because he's marginally quicker.

Despite their obvious faults, it has been a fine partnership, at times. Both are excellent in the air (weak on the ground) and physically intimidating.

Houghton, on the right of midfield, was Ireland's best player, and possibly the tournament's best midfield player, certainly in his position. His speed, skill, stamina and fearlessness is staggering.

Tony Galvin, on the opposite flank, had a fine championship and quickly dispelled any pre-tournament worries about his fitness.

In the pivotal roles, Whelan played well in fits, culminating in that glorious goal, but I think he is better suited to his normal club position on the left side, while Paul McGrath is another played out of position by Charlton.

He is not so much a midfielder than a third centre-back in front of Moran and McCarthy, with the mobility to push forward when Ireland are in possession.

Skipper Frank Stapleton and fellow striker, John Aldridge, chased hard and ran their hearts out in each game with no personal reward in the form of a goal.

Aldridge typified his Ireland goal drought by missing a sitter against the Soviets, while Stapleton is under orders to play deep as an extra midfielder when the opposition have possession.

For Jack Charlton's Ireland the immediate future looks good. Next month sees the start of the World Cup with the Republic in with an excellent qualifying chance from five-team Group 6 along with Spain, Hungary, Northern Ireland and Malta. With two to qualify direct, the boys in green must have a good chance of gracing Italy in June 1990.

As for Euro 88? Thanks for the memories, Jack.

by MICHAEL BUTCHER

BERND STILL IN THE NEWS!

BERND SCHUSTER, controversial and awkward as ever, managed to steal headlines during the European championship — even though he has long given up any notion of ever playing for West Germany again.

He even pushed Spain's national team off the front pages of the prolific domestic sports press the day he signed for Real Madrid.

Looking radiant in his new, symbolically pure all-white strip, Schuster took the field at the Estadio Bernabeu on the evening of Tueday, June 7, to confirm months of rumour and speculation.

Afte eight years of pain and glory in the maroon and blue of Barcelona, the blond Bavarian had finally landed in the enemy camp.

Not many players had trod that way before. Ferdinand Goywaerts, Jesus Tejada and Evaristo De Macedo — all back in the 1960s — are the most famous names which jump to mind. Only Tejada, joint top scorer in the 1961-62 Champions' Cup, could be considered to have made a success of the switch.

But then, Schuster is a law unto himself.

It is indicative of the aura of contention that Schuster carries with him that opinion was divided as to whether the move was for the good of Real Madrid or not.

From Hannover, where the Spanish team were encamped in preparation for the European championship came diplomatic noises from the Madrid players. Paradoxically though, the player who best summed up their feelings was Barcelona's Victor: "Schuster is a poor team-mate. He's too individualistic for a team sport. The time he's been at Barcelona corresponds with a period of deterioration in the atmosphere at the club."

In other words this man is trouble. And there is nothing in Schuster's past to countermand the claim.

Triumphant as an 18-year-old in Cologne, his colleagues found him insufferably conceited. The only friend he appears to have had in the whole team was the equally difficult Schumacher. Apparently at odds with the whole world, not for the last time the adjective 'misanthropic' was attached to the well-built youngster.

Nothing daunted, Schuster went to the European championship in Italy and emerged the player of the tournament complete with a winners' medal. That same year José Luis Nuñez, Barcelona's president, took on the player that was to prove both crowning glory, and thorn in the side, for the pride of Cateloñia.

In his second season Barcelona won the Cup-winners' Cup. And then two years later, with Terry Venables as manager, the league. In between times, though, Schuster had suffered a serious injury in San Mames at the fearsome boot of Bilbao's Goicoechea, an incident which elevated the German to one of the most quoted players in the Spanish league with his comment: "It's easier to come out of Vietnam alive than San Mames."

After the glory of winning the league, the following season of 1985-86 was one of the bitterest in recent memory for the azulgranas and for Schuster in particular. Virtually on home territory in Seville, Barcelona failed to win the European Cup. An almost greater shock was the substitution of Schuster who left the field to take a private plane back to Barcelona without waiting for the outcome of the match.

SCHUSTER . . . farewell to Catalonia.

As a consequence, Schuster spent the next season jousting with the club in court and watching from the terraces, only to return in his final season. At its conclusion, the rumours which had been circulating for some time came to pass; Schuster crossed over to the other side in an operation worth something in the order of £700,000 a year for the next three years, excluding salary and bonuses.

At his presentation on a warm sunny evening in June at the Bernabeu, Schuster was all sweetness and light. He even managed a smile, though none of the assembled photographers was quick enough to catch it. "It's a special day for me", he said, though no-one was sure whether he was referring to the fact that it was the tenth anniversary of his marriage or the promise of another cool million or two.

There was a great deal of reassuring talk of his family and four children, as though the mere mention was enough to calm the most anxious 'madridistas' that here was a man who had finally been tamed.

"I would like to win everything with Real Madrid. The European Cup is important for everyone," he declared to a benevolent smile from president Ramon Mendoza.

After so much artful diplomacy, it will be fascinating to see just how complete the metamorphosis is. No-one has ever had any doubts about Schuster's vision and ability as a playmaker and matchwinner.

The trouble is, his talent for destruction is almost as all-embracing. Real's enemies, particularly Barcelona, would be delighted if the experiment failed.

The answer to the conundrum lies completely within the Bavarian's own personality — and, perhaps, that of his equally controversial wife, Gaby. Spanish football fans can hardly wait.

Announcing Great New Titles in Breedon Books Highly-Acclaimed Complete Record Series

AND A SPECIAL OFFER TO READERS OF WORLD SOCCER

Spurs: A Complete Record 1874-1988 £14.95 **OUT NOW**
Aston Villa: A Complete Record 1886-1988 £14.95 **OUT NOW**
Bradford City: A Complete Record 1903-1988 £14.95 Pub. Aug.
Derby County: A Complete Record 1884-1988 £14.95 Pub. Sept.
Oldham Athletic: A Complete Record 1899-1988 £14.95 Pub. Sept.
Liverpool: A Complete Record 1892-1988 £14.95 Pub. Oct.
Arsenal: A Complete Record 1886-1988 £14.95 Pub. Oct.
Everton: A Complete Record 1879-1988 £14.95 Pub. Oct.
Plymouth Argyle: A Complete Record 1903-1988 £14.95 Pub. Nov.

Orders for the above titles received on the order form below will be despatched POST-FREE immediately upon publication (normal post and packing rates £2.00).

ALSO AVAILABLE:

West Ham United: A Complete Record 1900-1987 £14.95
Fulham: A Complete Record 1879-1987 £14.95
Sheffield Wednesday: A Complete Record 1867-1987 £14.95
Manchester City: A Complete Record 1887-1987 £14.95
Aberdeen: A Complete Record 1903-1987 £14.95
Bristol Rovers: A Complete Record 1883-1987 £14.95
Bristol City: A Complete Record 1894-1987 £14.95
Saints: A Complete Record of Southampton FC 1885-1987 £15.95
Albion: A Complete Record of West Bromwich Albion 1879-1987 £15.95
Scotland The Team — The Story of Scottish International Soccer £9.95

Orders for the above titles received on the order form below will be despatched POST-FREE immediately (normal post and packing rates £2.00).

"Breedon Books are a shining light in the world of football publishing" The Independent Newspaper

Breedon Books Publishing Co. Ltd.,
45 Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1DA, England.

PAYMENT MUST BE IN £STERLING AND ON A CHEQUE DRAWN ON A BRITISH BANK OR BY INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDER

Post to: Breedon Books Publishing Co. Ltd., Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1DA, England.

Name .....

Address .....

I enclose the sum of £.....

Please forward the following books, post free immediately they are available:

A PHOTOCOPY OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO CUT THE MAGAZINE.

WORLD SOCCER SPECIAL ON MALTA BY JANE CLARKE

FOOTBALL NEWCOMERS: FAR FROM IT

JUVENTUS, giants of Italy and Europe and headline-makers whether winning or losing on the pitch or in the transfer market, will be one of the first in line to pay tribute to one of Europe's minnows.

A year ago they took Ian Rush, Michael Laudrup and Co to play Valletta of Malta in the UEFA Cup. Juventus won easily, of course, but everyone within the club could not have failed to be impressed by the overflowing enthusiasm and dedication shown by the Maltese where football is concerned.

Such a small, arid island, more tourist-orientated than a force in the game, nonetheless played hosts to the Italians in a most accomplished fashion. The national stadium at Ta'Qaliwas one quarter full for the Italians' training session and three-quarters full for the match — which was also beamed live on television.

Benny Pace, secretary of the Valletta club, left no stone unturned, no detail overlooked in his handling of proceedings and public relations. During Juventus' two-day stay his non-stop efforts meant he left himself only five hours for sleep.

Valletta lost their home leg 4-0 but were far from disgraced in the Ta'Qali complex, which lies solitarily, like a sleeping giant below the 'silent city' of Mdina. Its location on a disused, desert-like airfield makes it an oddity when compared with Nou Camp, Azteca or the Bernabeu.

But when one puts into perspective the site, the lack of all facilities which once prevailed, it is astounding to understand the strides which have been made.

Built only five years ago, Ta'Qali now boasts a complex of which any European city would be justifiably proud. The top floor of the tiered stadium which, three years ago, was "impossible — rain was dripping down the walls and sand and ruhbble covered the floors," now houses the 'dream scheme.'

This is a technical area offering visiting teams first-class facilities. The Malta FA invite squads from all round the world to come and sample their extensive floodlit turf training grounds, de luxe lecture hall, conference room, recreational section, gymnasia, sauna, bar and restaurant.

The idea is for clubs from colder climates, such as Scandinavia, to take advantage of Malta's winter warmth by coming on a one or two-week training camp.

The weather is assured and there are private rooms for 24, enabling the team and officials to be permanently 'on site'.

The fruits of all that work were plainly evident in the success of the four-team tournament organised by the Malta FA at the start of this year and featuring the hosts' national team, East Germany, Finland and Tunisia.

When the visiting Finns and East Germans aren't around then the facilities are available for use on subscription by the public — and the Maltese national side, who are determined to improve their standing in the European game.

Results in World Cups and European championships have been steadily reflecting that improvement. The average defeat, officials point out, is now 5-3 compared with 4-0 a few years ago.

That surely vindicates the association's restructuring of the national team and the hard work undertaken by former national team boss Genscho Dobrev from Bulgaria and now his West German successor, Horst Heese.

If graft equals success then the future should be rosy. But then, being a small island with a population of little more than half a million, there is a limit to what may be achieved.

Ambition

Malta have never qualified for the finals of a major tournament. But that is no reason to decry their ambition. For example, in the recent European championship qualifiers, they forced a 2-2 away draw with Portugal. Admittedly, the Portuguese were below strength because of a players' dispute. But then again, they only scrambled the equaliser with just over ten minutes to go.

Even more recently Malta held Scotland to a 1-1 draw in Valletta and then lost 'only' 3-0 in Belfast to Northern Ireland in the first European qualifying match of the 1990 World Cup.

Malta are far from newcomers to football. The game was introduced by British servicemen under the Governorship of Sir Arthur Borton more than 100 years ago.

Early, sketchy, records describe matches played in stockinged feet on rough ground. The first referee's whistle was heard in 1886 in a 1-1 draw between the Shropshire Regiment and Cospicua St Andrew's.

In 1900 the Malta FA was set up, before FIFA that is, and a league championship was inaugurated a year later. It was soon followed by the MFA Cup, the Cousis Shield and the Cassar Charity Shield. The FA Trophy, one of the most prestigious domestic contests, was not launched until 1934-35.

It was in the 1920s that clubs from mainland Europe were first invited to the island. Results were bad; but crowds were good. To this day the Maltese have retained a strong interest in football in Spain and Italy. Indeed, their current top player, Carmel Busuttil, plays for the Italian regional league team, Verbania — one of the very few Maltese football exports.

A first international match was played on February 24, 1957, when Malta lost 3-2 at home to Austria — though the status of the match remains in question. Malta had yet to join FIFA so the Austrians do not count it among their full internationals.

A more logical starting point appears to be the 1960 Olympic qualifiers, though even this was not without problems. The Maltese were originally grouped with Egypt and Tunisia. Later this was amended to Ethiopia and Tunisia — at which the Maltese protested because of the costs involved.

Point taken, Malta were regrouped again, this time with Tunisia and Morocco. Olympic participation raised no problems because at this time Maltese football was very much amateur (save for one squabble over Joe Cini, Malta's best forward at the time who played briefly in England with Queen's Park Rangers but retained his amateur status).

But eventually the professional barriers had to come down as the leading clubs — Sliema Wanderers, Floriana, Valletta and Hibernians are the all-time top four — clamoured for the right to enter the European club competitions.

That breakthrough was achieved in the 1961-62 season, when Floriana entered the Champions' Cup and Hibs the Cup-winners' Cup. Not with much success: Floriana lost 2-5, 2-10 to Ujpest Dozsa of Hungary and Hibs went down 1-2, 0-5 to Servette of Switzerland.

But it was a start. Ever since then Maltese clubs have competed regularly in the two mainstream UEFA competitions, and when the old Fairs' Cup was reorganised as the UEFA Cup, in 1971-72, Malta were granted right of entry there as well.

The furthest any Maltese club have yet progressed in Europe is the second round: Sliema (twice), Hibs (twice) and Hamrun Spartans (once), all in the Champions' Cup. Hamrun, having won the league-and-cup double this past season, are back in the Champions' Cup this time again.

The withdrawal of the last British forces in 1979 left the Maltese with an excellent sports infrastructure, including the new national stadium at Ta'Qali which has — to the relief of many a visiting team — replaced the gritty old Gzira pitch as national venue.

The Ta'Qali complex was officially inaugurated in 1980. It could have been available earlier but for adminstrative wrangling which reflected well on the sport's independent spirit and less well on leading politicians.

The Ta'Qali complex has since been extended and developed and the new offices of the Malta FA were formally opened in 1983 by FIFA president Joao Havelange, accompanied by Artemio Franchi, the late president of UEFA, as part of the most powerful official football delegation ever to visit the island.

This was also a landmark time for the national team. For many years the leading clubs had imported coaches and occasional players. Now, in 1984, the Bulgarian, Gencho Dobrov, was appointed national manager in succession to Victor Scerri, who quit after the highly controversial 12-1 defeat by Spain in Seville in the last European championships.

Dobrov, who had previously worked as adviser to Scerri, immediately settled on his priority — "the players must change their attitude to fall into line with the professional approach on the European mainland. Only by setting this goal will Maltese football make progress in the world."

Dobrov has now been succeeded by the West German, Horst Heese. But, as the national team benefit from support and assistance from their players' employers, it is clear the Maltese have not finished with surprising the rest of Europe.

THE MANAGER

Horst HEESE. Aged 44 (born December 31, 1943). West German who emerged from a short-list of five to succeed Bulgaria Gencho Dobrov after the end of the recent European championship campaign in December. Heese had previously coached the West German club Viktoria Aschaffenburg. Earlier he scored 38 goals in 149 games in a five-year Bundesliga career with Eintracht Frankfurt and Hamburg.

SOCCER BOOKSHELF

10% DISCOUNT ON ALL ORDERS IN EXCESS OF £50

ORDER FROM THIS SMALL SELECTION OF BOOKS AND VIDEOS OR SEND FOR OUR CATALOGUE WHICH LISTS OVER 100 BOOKS AND 25 VIDEOS (UK-SAE).
POSTAGE-VIDEOS Prices include a charge for post: UK First class, Overseas — Airmail.
BOOKS Please add postage as shown
DELIVERY TIMES — UK 1-2 weeks; Europe 2-4 weeks
North America 4-7 Weeks elsewhere up to 10 weeks
Air 2-7 days

VIDEOS UK FORMAT (VHS) PAL System – for UK, Europe, Australasia

1966 WORLD CUP FINAL. Black & white film of the complete England v West Germany final game including extra time. UK PRICE £16.95. OVERSEAS £18.95.
1962 WORLD CUP SERIES. Black & white highlights of the Chile World Cup. UK PRICE £16.95. OVERSEAS PRICE £18.95.
1968 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL. Black & white film of Manchester United v Benfica. UK PRICE £16.95. OVERSEAS PRICE £18.95
1954 WORLD CUP SERIES. Black & white highlights of the 1954 tournament in Switzerland. UK PRICE £16.95. OVERSEAS PRICE £18.95

VIDEOS US FORMAT (VHS) NTSC System – for North & South America and Japan

PELE — THE MASTER AND HIS METHOD. 60 minutes of the world's greatest. PRICE (AIR) £29.95
GOLE. 100 minutes of action from the 1982 World Cup. PRICE (AIR) £39.95.
1986 WORLD CUP. Highlights of the 1986 World Cup. PRICE (AIR) £39.95
WORLD CUP SERIES — GIANTS OF BRAZIL — 52 minutes of Brazilian soccer. PRICE (AIR) £32.95

BOOKS — NEW TITLES

ROTHMANS FOOTBALL YEARBOOK 1988/89. The new 19th edition! HARDBACK PRICE £14.95. SOFTBACK PRICE £10.95. UK POST + £2.00. OVERSEAS POST + £3.00. AIR + £7.50.
THE SUPPORTERS GUIDE TO FOOTBALL LEAGUE CLUBS. The new 5th edition now includes all 92 league clubs and all 22 GM Vauxhall Conference clubs. SOFTBACK PRICE £3.45. UK POST + £50p. OVERSEAS POST + £1.25. AIR + £3.00.
JOCK STEIN — THE AUTHORISED BIOGRAPHY. All about the late Jock Stein. HARDBACK PRICE £9.95. UK POST + £1.25. OVERSEAS POST + £2.00. AIR + £5.00.
THE FA YEARBOOK 1988/89. Every fan's essential buy. SOFTBACK PRICE £3.95. UK POST + 75p. OVERSEAS POST + £1.50. AIR + £3.00.
THE NEWS OF THE WORLD FOOTBALL ANNUAL 1989. The oldest of all the annuals. SOFTBACK PRICE £2.50. UK POST + £75p. OVERSEAS POST + £1.25. AIR + £2.50.

BOOKS — BEST SELLERS

HOCKINGS — EUROPEAN CUPS. Full country by country, club record of all games in the European Cup, The European Cup-Winners Cup and The UEFA Cup + each European country's league champions and Cup Winners to date. SOFTBACK PRICE £9.95. UK POST + £1.00. OVERSEAS + £2.00. AIR + £3.50.
RED DEVILS IN EUROPE. By David Meek. The complete history of Manchester United in Europe. HARDBACK PRICE £14.95. UK POST + £2.00. OVERSEAS + £3.00. AIR + £10.00
FIFA WORLD CUP 1930-1986. Full country-by-country record of World Cup final series. SOFTBACK PRICE £3.95 UK POST + 75p. OVERSEAS POST + £1.25. AIR £2.75
GUINNESS SOCCER FIRSTS. Just a few remaining copies of this best seller left. SOFTBACK PRICE £4.95. UK POST + £1.50. OVERSEAS POST + £2.00. AIR + £4.50

To:
THE SOCCER BOOKSHELF
(World Soccer)
MAIL ORDER SERVICES
72 St PETERS AVENUE,
CLEETHORPES, DN35 8HU
ENGLAND

From

.....
.....
.....
.....
(11).....

ORDER FORM

TITLE	PRICE £	PRICE p	POST £	POST p
COST				
+ Postage				

Make cheques payable to
MAIL ORDER SERVICES

I enclose Cheque, Cash, British P.O. for Total.....

I wish to pay by Credit Card No
Access/Master Charge ☐ Barclaycard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐
I have paid by Transcash into Account No. 278 — 2952 ☐

Payment accepted by US Dollars, Canadian Dollars, Australian Dollars, cheques and money orders.

USA 1994 — 0

from PAUL GARDNER in Geneva

THE door to the Castor Room was firmly shut. Inside, FIFA's executive committee was listening to the Brazilians argue their case for hosting the 1994 World Cup.

Outside, a small group of journalists hung around, vaguely waiting for developments. They did not wait long.

First, the exciting sound of samba music filtered out — obviously, the Brazilians were showing their "come to Brazil" video. Then, muffled at first, but increasingly loud and passionate, the voice of one of the delegates — Moacir Peralta — could be heard.

But not for long. FIFA press chief Guido Tognoni suddenly appeared, to usher the journalists out of earshot. Logically — for Peralta, the financial director of the Brazilian FA — was beginning to criticise FIFA president Joao Havelange for his lack of support for the Brazilian bid. So the journalists trooped reluctantly off, banished to the Mövenpick Hotel's convention hall.

The Brazilian outburst was not expected. The previous day, the members of their delegation had admitted they stood no chance if FIFA were to assign the 1994 World Cup on financial grounds.

"If it's a matter of money," said Peralta, "then the USA will get it. But if the decision is based on football, on tradition, on love for the game, then it must come to Brazil. We shall make an *emotional* appeal."

One wondered if they really believed in what they were doing — a doubt nourished when another delegation member, Hildo Nejar, observed: "Well, if the USA get it, our best answer will be to see American fans cheering the Brazilian team to victory."

Their 30-minute allotment used up, the Brazilians left the Castor Room, to be replaced by the Moroccan delegation.

Where the Brazilians had been, in the days leading up to the session, open and gregarious, the Moroccans had been something of a mystery.

They had, it was known, been waging a costly high-pressure effort to win over FIFA delegates. But was that a sensible thing to do? Didn't it fly in the face of a widespread feeling that the die was already cast, that the USA would win out . . . because that was the way Havelange wanted it?

It was a point of view put, with a shrug and a resigned air, by Octavro Guimaraes, president of the Brazilian CBF. While the Moroccans were presenting their case, Guimaraes talked to the press.

How had the Brazilian session gone? he was asked. He ignored the question, replying: "I think it is already decided, don't you? I think the American have it."

Despite all their ifs, buts and maybes and it-ain't-over-yets, one could not escape the impression that the Americans believed that, too. On the previous day their confidence had received a dramatic boost with the last minute arrival of a two-minute video-tape from President Reagan in which he greeted the FIFA committee and talked fluently about the World Cup and how much Americans wanted it.

But this morning, the world of soccer had been violated by reality. The Americans had shot down an Iranian airliner, 290 innocent people were dead . . . and President Reagan did not look quite the same shining knight.

It was a point to which the Moroccans referred. After their session, they intimated that it would not be appropriate for FIFA to award the World Cup to the USA on a day when "the Americans have killed 60 women and children."

The American delegation was now in the Castor Room facing the FIFA biggies. There had been a discussion beforehand, and it was decided that they would go ahead and show the Reagan tape. Where the Brazilians and the Morroccans had taken up their full 30 minutes, the Americans needed only 22 minutes.

Then came the wait, as the executive committee discussed the three bids, and took their vote. But would there be a vote? Or would it — as on the infamous occasion in Stockholm five years previously when the 1986 World Cup was given to Mexico — be a rubber-stamped unanimous decision?

It took an hour and 15 minutes. The leaders of the delegations were then called back into the Castor Room. Seven minutes later, the United States Soccer Federation president Werner Fricker returned to his delegation looking white-faced and worried. But within five minutes the Brazilians came along the corridor to offer congratulations to the US. The 1994 World Cup was bound for America.

FIFA vice-president Harry Cavan, made it official at 13.20, local time. A small party of US supporters, present at the press conference, cheered. Surprisingly, not many questions were asked. Possibly because Cavan had immediately announced that there had been a vote, and that the figures were: Brazil 2, Morocco 7, and the USA 10.

It reflected what most had been predicting — it told the Brazilians that their bid wasn't good enough, it encouraged the Moroccans to keep trying, and it rewarded the Americans for a lot of professional work.

Listening to FIFA secretary-general Sepp Blatter afterwards, it appeared that the Americans bid was, in truth, the only viable one.

Blatter said: "The Moroccans

BRAZIL . . . NO CHANCE

from BRIAN HOMEWOOD

EMPTY stadia, boycotts, administrative chaos, the national team without a manager for three months, the top players going abroad . . . no wonder Brazil polled only a humiliating two votes in their bid to host the 1994 World Cup.

Not that there is anything new about any of the above problems. Brazil has long been used to losing its top players to the more lucrative leagues of Europe, particularly Italy and Portugal. The regional state championships, which take up the first half of the year, have never been great crowd pullers.

And managerial problems with the national team are no novelty — the Brazilians even sacked their manager on the eve of the 1970 World Cup — and the CBF has been criticised dozens of times in the past for its incompetence.

But nearly always in the past the football itself has risen above the other problems. Brazilian football has always been regarded as the most skilful and the most entertaining to watch. Not any more.

DOMESTIC FOO

Domestic football in Brazil has become painfully tedious. The only games in which more than a couple of goals are scored nowadays are state championship matches in which a major team takes on a small town team. Matches between top teams are about as inspiring as the Bulgarians in the last World Cup.

Worse still, it has become violent. The Brazilians now resemble the Argentines and the Uruguayans at their worst. Already this year three of Brazil's top players — Zico, Mauricinho and Renato — have been put out of the game for weeks by injuries which were the direct results of bad fouls. And in all cases the culprits were allowed to remain on the field.

"Anyone who attempts to dribble with the ball now can expect to get injured," says Zico. "It is difficult to teach children the idea of playing football without fouls and violence because of what they see on the

A STAGE 4 FINALS OFFICIAL

presented only two stadia, beyond that only plans. For us it is wiser to accept existing infrastructure — the World Cup is not a development programme.

"The Brazilians presented *no* financial plans, *no* financial guarantees for renovation of stadiums. And we found no interest in staging the World Cup. When our inspection party went to some of the Brazilian cities they told us "We're not interested in having the World Cup here!"

There can be no denying that the US bid was a thoroughly professional affair, with studied attention to all the details that concern FIFA. The thing was kept impressively low-key (not always easy when Americans start to get enthusiastic about something) — an attitude which persisted even after victory had been announced.

The US delegation returned to its hotel and a short champagne celebration in the lobby. Fricker wasted no time in drawing attention to the next priority: "I feel relieved — somewhat comfortable, if you like — but now the most important thing is to do well in the Olympic Games. That's a big challenge for our players and our coaching staff."

Fricker has strong views — expressed with some vehemence — on the matter of how the US national team should be run. First and foremost, he brushes aside the idea of bringing in a foreign coach: "We've tried that before. We had Dettmar Cramer, and he failed — or, at least, he didn't succeed. When he saw how difficult it was going to be, he wanted to go somewhere where it was easier.

"Later we had Karl-Heinz Heddergott (as director of coaching) — and neither of them brought an American outlook. It was never 'we are going to do it' — with them, 'we' was always West Germany. I will go with people whose heart is here, that's from experience."

This is the view which celarly rules out the possibility of, say, Franz Beckenbauer being recruited as the US coach. But one seriously wonders whether this view is sustained. The coaching talent available within the US is decidedly lacking in top-level international experience. Those that do have experience inevitably have a losing record — for the history of the US national teams is not exactly glittering with triumphs.

The difficulty of putting a competitive US team on the field is probably the most intractable of all those that come with the organising of World Cup 1994. For once the dilemma of selecting a coach has been solved, there is no escaping the awkward truth that, while the US has a lot of young talent coming along, it has absolutely nowhere to give them regular, high-calibre, professional games.

At the moment there is no professional league in the USA. Most of the players on the current US national team are either playing in college, or in the semi-pro American Soccer League or Western Alliance.

One or two are with European clubs. And a few spend most of the year playing in the Major Indoor Soccer League (the MISL is certainly a pro league, but the game that it plays is equally certainly not soccer. There have been serious problems in getting indoor players to re-adapt to the outdoor game).

Without regular pro experience, it is asking a bit much of the young US players to take on the world. Sometimes they do remarkably well.

Immediately after the World Cup announcement on July 4, the USA played the French first division team Lille — and beat them 1-0. Two nights later, in a game of quite extraordinary dullness, they took Lokomotiv Leipzig to overtime before losing 3-0. Two nights after that, the roof fell in with a 6-0 loss to Racing Matra in Paris.

Then it was back home to the USA, there to suffer a 2-0 loss to Poland.

A mixed bag of results, not easy to assess, because at no time did the USA have its strongest team on the field. Admittedly, it will never be easy to get total agreement on just what the best team is, but there will remain the massive central problem: just where are these young players going to get their playing experience?

One possible, plausible answer: decide on the nucleus of the national team right now, find a sponsor and bring them together on a permanent basis, playing, say, 40 or 50 games a year against international opposition.

But that may not happen, because Fricker doesn't like the idea.

He says: "I have a concern about that. You can't take the best 18 players right now and lock them in. I'm not concerned about the sponsors taking control of the team, but it's not a natural situation. An outdoor league is natural. That's what we need, a fully-fledged professional league — not a false situation created by us. And Americans need more cup experience where they have to learn quickly that every game is the *last* game."

OTBALL HAS BECOME TEDIOUS

television."

No wonder he is taking up a soccer tutorial job in Japan!

Brazilians now watch live transmission of Italian league matches on television and say they are impressed by the high level of entertainment and lack of malicious fouls. And Italy is hardly a country with a reputation for either attacking football or clean play.

Zico himself was the first of the trio to be injured during a game between his club Flamengo and Botafogo for the Rio state championship on March 7. Just six minutes had gone when he was the victim of a crunching tackle from behind by Mauro Galvão. Zico, who had been having knee problems as it was, left the field ten minutes later and did not play again until the middle of May. Galvão was not even shown a yellow card.

One week later it was the turn of Mauricinho, a young winger who plays for Vasco and of whom Brazil has high hopes. He was sidelined for at least three months after a challenge from Fluminense's Jandir, who "went in like a horse" according to one newspaper. Forty-one minutes of the first half had been played when Mauricinho received the ball and sped cleanly past Jandir who decided to go in for a tackle with both legs even though the ball was nowhere in sight.

Mauricinho was stretchered off to undergo a knee operation. His parents at one stage threatened to take Jandir to court. Jandir himself did not miss a minute's football as he received only a yellow card, a pathetic punishment in the circumstances.

New depths were reached a month later with the Renato episode. Renato, now joining Roma from Flamengo, was the victim of what was nothing short of a witch-hunt by the defenders of America of Rio. Within the first 15 minutes he was the victim of four fouls, the last of which equalled anything Harold Shumacher could hand out. Renato was already limping after the second challenge. After the fourth he could barely walk, though he managed to continue until just before half-time when the inevitable happened and he had to go off.

As for the culprits — first Delacir, then Dede, then Sandro, then Dede and Sandro together — none received a red card though Sandro was later ordered off for a challenge in which he nearly tore a Flamengo forward's shirt off. So while Renato was out for six weeks, of his assailants (only Sandro) was suspended.

After the match, Renato said: "First it was Zico, then Mauricinho, now me. Who is going to be next?" His words were echoed in the next day's newspapers. "They are finishing off the star players," said one headline. Another report said that "soon the only players left will be the violent ones."

Flamengo's president Marcio Braga threatened after the match to pull his club out of the competition though this turned out to be a bit of a publicity stunt as he backed down the next day.

The incidents involving Zico, Mauricinho and Renato are only the tip of the iceberg. It is not just these players who have suffered and it doesn't happen only in Rio. Go to a football match in Brazil today and you are lucky to see more than a few seconds without a foul, a deliberate handball or the sort of violence that the likes of Zico has suffered.

The obvious cause of the problem is weak refereeing. According to João Saldanha, an ex-national team manager and now newspaper columnist, "a player has to commit two or three serious offences to be shown a yellow card." The referee in the Flamengo-America match was not just weak, he was overweight. The man was 25 yards away when the fourth foul on Renato was committed.

● continued on page 49

MEXICO FIX IT

by KEIR RADNEDGE

NO-ONE who knows Mexican football could have resisted a sad smile at the inevitability of it all when FIFA banned the Mexicans from all international competitive football for the next two years for age-fixing.

The decision was by far the most startling at the FIFA congress in Zurich. Far more startling than awarding the 1994 World Cup finals to the United States. As World Soccer readers know, better than probably anyone else, that decision had long been expected.

Kicking Mexico out into the cold was, however, remarkable in that FIFA — admirably, let us say, in case anyone at FIFA HQ accuses us of not giving credit where it is due — stuck to their guns.

After the Italy fiasco last year FIFA had warned that any further falsification of players' age documents would be punished in just this manner.

History

The Mexicans could have been in no doubt about the crazy path on which they so blatantly embarked at the World Youth Cup qualifying tournament in Guatemala last April.

This is the history:

As long as age-limit competitions have been a feature of the international calendar, there have been suspicions of age-bending. Or, to put it more succinctly, cheating.

And cheating to such an extent that the current European under-21 competitions incorporate permission for each team to field two over-age players, precisely to legalise the rule infringements of which everyone had been aware but to which no-one would own up.

The irony is that European football is so well-documented and the media so alert, that the chances now of getting away with age-bending is more remote here than in any other part of the football world.

Success

When age-limit competition spread beyond Europe, the situation became even more fraught.

The introduction of the World Youth Cup and, even more recently, the World Under-16 championship, brought in their wake much greater nationalistic pressure for success.

There were also other complications. In many third world countries there has been no consistent system of birth registration. Therefore FA and club officials could 'amend' birthdate details without fear of contradictory proof coming to light.

Those nations who were caught out were merely the tip of an iceberg of deceit. Honduras bent documentation for their juniors in 1981; so did North Korea a year later.

In both cases it was the junior team of those countries which was suspended from international events.

Then, this time last year, the Italian federation — warned that the media was about to blow the gaffe — owned up to UEFA and FIFA that they had "inadvertently" fielded an overage player (Fiorentina's Riccardo Secci) in winning the European qualifying competition for the World Under-16 championship Cup in Canada.

UEFA kicked them out of the tournament . . . only for the Italians to be reinstated by FIFA!

Cynics suggested that FIFA had to rescue the Italians for the financial sake of the finals since they had long been earmarked for Toronto, where there was plenty of ethnic support.

And, indeed, Italy's was the only first-round group which drew crowds of more than 10,000 per match; the Italians' semi-final against Nigeria (who were, themselves, the butt of much unproven speculation) drew 20,117, over 5,000 more than turned out for the final.

FIFA did, subsequently, reiterate their 1985 warning that "guilty officials will be suspended for life and the respective national associations for a period of two years from all FIFA competitions." Thus there could have been no doubt that further acts of age-fixing would incur the wrath of God.

Or, at least, Havelange — which, in FIFA terms, amounts to the same thing.

The greatest irony of the Mexican fiasco is that the very people who have so assiduously courted the friendship and support of FIFA president Joao Havelange over the years, should have managed such an own goal.

One of the tragedies of Mexican football over the years (some might say of Mexican public life, in general, given the political stagnation brought about by 40 years under the PRI) is that such a gentle, friendly people should have had to suffer some of the leaders the game has attracted.

Charge

FIFA officials think so, too, but of course they cannot say so publicly.

As far back as their first World Cup staging in 1970 there were dark mutterings about 'gift apartments' in Acapulco and, after the finals, there was an almighty falling-out between the Mexican FA and Guillermo Canedo, the man who ran the local organising effort.

Some 16 years later and Canedo was back in charge. And how ! His first coup was in securing the World Cup for Mexico after Colombia pulled out. During the 1982 finals in Spain, long before the Colombians had formally thrown in the towel, the Mexicans were working confidently towards their takeover.

No need here to reiterate the theatre by which FIFA's executive committee stage-managed the judgment between Mexico, Canada and the United States. Admittedly, the Americans were their own worst enemies — wheeling in Henry Kissinger and expecting Havelange and Co to fall off their chairs in awe.

But you don't get onto the FIFA executive without being a pretty smart political operator, too. And football diplomacy is a world of its own.

Canedo, by now a FIFA vice-president, was again the World Cup organising figurehead in Mexico in 1986. Behind and above it all, however, lurked the shadowy figure of millionaire media owner Emilio Azcarraga — the owner of the all-powerful Televisa, with its burgeoning United States ambitions via the Spanish International Network.

It was Televisa which provided the financial guarantees FIFA needed to award Mexico the World Cup, and it was Televisa who 'loaned' many of the senior personnel who ran the organising infrastructure.

Criticise

Several non-Televisa journalists who dared to criticise later complained they were having problems with their accreditation credentials . . .

At official, public level FIFA duly thanked the Mexicans, Canedo and the Mexican FA president, Rafael Del Castillo, for their wonderful staging of the World Cup at such short notice. Privately, officials were appalled at some of the things which went on. Like the 'confusion' over monies given by competing federations to an earthquake relief fund . . .

Having come through the World Cup so successfully, the Mexicans clearly believed they were fireproof.

So, at the World Youth Cup qualifying tournament in Guatemala City earlier this year, they included at least four players who were not merely days or weeks but years too old. Mexico duly beat Cuba and the United States by 2-1 and lost 3-0 to tournament winners Costa Rica.

But finishing runners-up to Costa Rica was good enough to qualify for next year's finals in Saudi Arabia — ahead of the third-placed United States.

But this time they had gone too far. Perhaps they had not appreciated the way the political balance within CONCACAF (the North and Central American confederation) is changing.

Now, with soccer making serious progress in the US, there were reasons for the small, poor, fringe nations to look to Uncle Sam to help break down the decades-long Mexican domination of the region.

So, any friendly gesture towards the United States might be worth making. Thus it was the Guatemalans who first leaked allegations of Mexican cheating and the United States who ultimately benefited — twice over. First, because as third-place finishers in Guatemala they will replace banned Mexico at next year's World Youth Cup.

Obstacle

Secondly, perhaps even more intriguing, Mexico's ban from the World Cup qualifiers removes one major obstacle from the Americans' bid to qualify for the finals for the first time since 1950.

The decisive meeting at which the evidence was presented was not the FIFA congress but a meeting, a few weeks, earlier of the CONCACAF executive.

It was that meeting, amid allegations of bribery attempts by Mexicans, which decided to ban for life Mexican federation officials including president Del Castillo, vice-presidents Rafael Lebrija and Hector Perez, secretary Ramon Martinez, treasurer Manuel Aceves Montenegro, assistant treasurer Gerardo Gallegos, assistant secretary Francisco Cantu and committee member Rafael Castellanos.

(Just for the record, Canedo, though a major figure in Mexican football is not formally involved in the federation's day-to-day work. He is 'free' to be a FIFA vice-president).

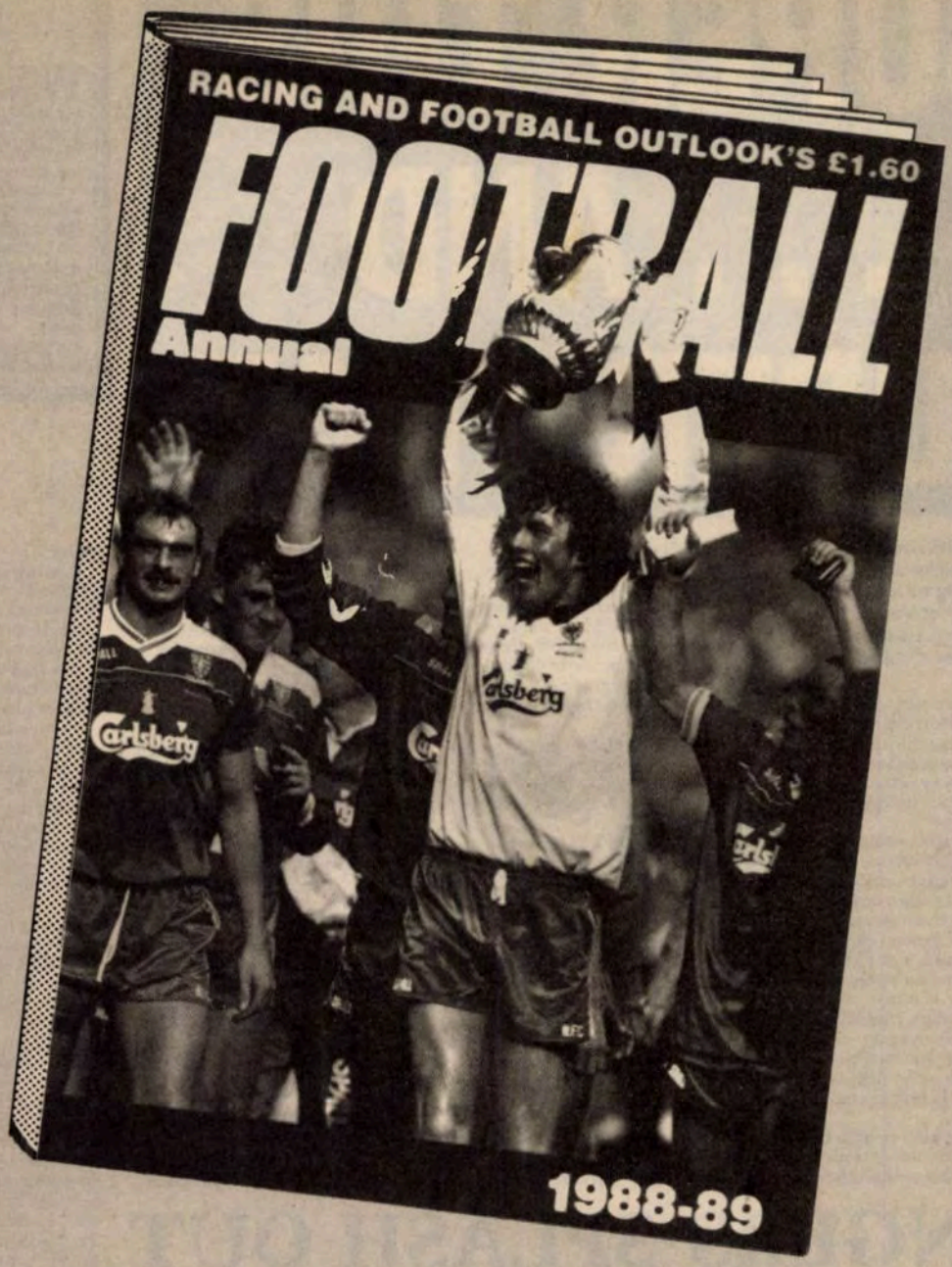
How could anyone not find the Mexicans guilty ? Incredibly, three of their youth squad were listed in their clubs' squads in the Mexican FA's official handbook — along with birthdates showing them clearly to be over-age. One, indeed, is 23!

The Mexicans appealed, predictably, to FIFA, believing no doubt that their old chums would cover it all up, find some technical loophole. They were in for a rude shock.

When the matter came up for discussion Canedo, correctly, withdrew. He must have been shocked when Havelange, too, 'sat out'.

The rest we know. The US take their place at the Youth Cup; Guatemala take their place at the Seoul Olympics; and they are out of the 1990 World Cup.

Sad, but inevitable. Hopefully the lessons will be heeded worldwide.



ON SALE NOW!

Soccer's Hardy Annual!
(First published in 1935)

- ★ English and Scottish League Fixtures
- ★ 6 Years results
- ★ 1987/88 Season's results and records — including principal non-league
- ★ Club prospects for the season

Available from all good newsagents. Price £1.60

Or direct from Websters Publications Ltd. (Dept F.A.), 29th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

Including postage and packing

UK	£1.80
Europe Air Mail	£2.20
Other Countries Air Mail	£2.80

The book is paperback, measures approximately 15cm × 10cm, and contains 160 pages.

SUPER THIS ... AND SUPER THAT

COTTEE

WEST HAM UNITED striker Tony Cottee has opted to join Everton and has signed a five-year contract which takes him to Goodison Park for a British record fee, thought to be £2.5 million.

Cottee plumped for Everton after a battle for his services between the Merseyside club and Arsenal.

The 23-year-old spoke to both rival managers — Colin Harvey of Everton and Arsenal's George Graham — before making up his mind.

The actual fee is believed to be around £2.2 million but West Ham

DERICK A START OF

ENGLISH football creeps towards the opening of a new season under cover of headlines about super leagues, super deals and super stars.

Rival television companies pushed up the price of coverage rights to £44m, leaving the public in not so great suspense over the possible breakaway of the Big Five. Or the Big Ten as it would, in reality, have to be!

With Europe now seeming as distant as Mars, Liverpool, Everton, Manchester United, Arsenal and Tottenham again threatened to go their own way and cream off the TV money. They were ready to do business with ITV for an exclusive four-year agreement.

What followed, of course, was a saga of counter offers, threats and negotiations as the league — the majority of the league that is — found champions in the BBC and British Satellite Broadcasting company.

As the bidding went on both sides packaged their offers to give all 92 clubs a share of the goodies, the Big Five manitained they never wanted to split the League in the first place.

At the time of writing ITV have the bigger offer of £44m on the table. the latest BBC-BSB offer was £35.8m. Clubs are due to decide which one to accept at an extraordinary meeting on August 8.

When the big clubs weren't involved in television deal talks they were concerning themselves with the contest to smash the home transfer record.

Peter Beardsley's £1.9m move from Newcastle United to Liverpool last year looked likely to be unchallenged for some time, yet during these past few weeks our cash hungry clubs have been falling over themselves to go one better.

Another Newcastle player, Paul Gascoigne, was the young man attracting the attention through last season, even though he wasn't to figure in Bobby Robson's England plans for the European Championship.

Ultimately the chase came down to two clubs — Manchester United and Tottenham. The midfield player chose Spurs and Newcastle picked up another £2m.

Within a fortnight of that transaction being completed, another two of the big five, Arsenal and Everton, were competing for the £2m signing of another player yet to establish himself as a senior England player, West Ham striker Tony Cottee.

Eventually the Merseysider's got their man this time for a staggering £2.5m, breaking the British record for the second time this summer.

There were plenty of 'lesser' deals to keep our poor clubs occupied. Spurs had already beaten Everton and paid £1.5m for Manchester City's centre-forward Paul Stewart; Manchester United paid a similar amount to take Mark Hughes back to Old Trafford from Barcelona via Bayern Munich; and Everton spent the best part of £2m on Chelsea winger Pat Nevin and Newcastle (yes, Newcastle again) right-back Neil McDonald.

A visitor from Mars would be excused for thinking this was a land of soccer talent a-plenty. A visitor from Europe wouldn't make the same mistake. He would know better.

Coming as it does in the wake of England's wretched showing at the European Championship in West Germany, this multi-million pound fare does rather stick in the gullet.

Are English football watchers — those who turn up at the grounds or those who settle for their armchairs — in for such a banquet this coming winter? Only the naive would say they haven't any doubts.

When the talking and the dealing is over and the playing resumes, the English game will have to face up to the fact that it has an identity crisis.

Even up to and during last season we heard men of position in this country rolling out the tired old propaganda about the English Football League being the best in the world.

After Liverpool, it was certainly competitive, it was tough and it was committed. But it was also, after Liverpool, essentially a clash of the mediocre.

Milan demonstrated as much when they arrived in Manchester on a wet evening, their Italian Championship celebrations doubtless still weighing heavy, to confront England's second best club, United, on a disgraceful Old Trafford pitch. They mastered both the surface and the opposition to give English football a warning of what was to come in Germany.

What came and mercifully went in Germany amounted to confirmation that our game is losing touch and rapidly losing hope.

The inevitable antics of the fans — whether or not they were provoked — means the ban on English clubs in Europe remains and continued the isolation which will further erode our prospects for the day, if it ever dawns, when we are re-united with the continent.

In the meantime our clubs — should they find the time between matters of high finance — must decide whether they are to persist with the crash-bang-wallop style so painfully exposed by the genuine footballers, or take in the lessons of a now all-too-rare course in the advanced game.

In terms of technique, poise and control, the best in Europe are in a different grade. We have to re-educate our coaches and re-educate our players.

The clubs, in turn, constantly argue that the punters want the 'English game' with all its grunt

RANGERS SPLASH OUT

GLENN GIBBONS

SO much dust has been kicked up during the close season in Scotland that, until it has settled, it will be even riskier than usual to make guesses about how things will take shape in the coming months.

Rangers, ever mindful of the need to lead in order to attract enough revenue to sustain their astronomical outgoings, actually managed to spend £1,500,000 while they were out of the country in July.

Gary Stevens, the 26-year-old England full-back, left Everton on a £1,000,000 fee, with Kevin Drinkell, the Norwich City striker, going to Ibrox for half that amount as Rangers prepared for the new season — which kicks off on August 13 — in Tuscany, in northern Italy.

Too many departments in Graeme Souness's team did not function at maximum efficiency last season as they lost their championship to Celtic and, with Graham Roberts apparently on his way, Terry Butcher returning after a nine-month absence through injury, and the new faces arriving, they could face another period of unsettlement.

Celtic were the worthiest of champions, taking the title by a distance, but manager Billy McNeill spoke frequently of the need to strengthen, especially for the European challenge. But finding people as good as, or better than, those already on the staff has been difficult, and Celtic so far have not recruited.

Indeed, they lost Northern Ireland goalkeeper Allen McKnight to West Ham and there are justified fears that first choice Pat Bonner, the Republic of Ireland internatinal, will miss the opening after undergoing surgery on a damaged back. In the emergency, 40-year-old Hamish McAlpine, ex-Dundee United, has been brought out of retirement and put on stand-by.

Nowhere is the crisis deeper, however, than at Dundee United, whose manager, Jim McLean, went into a week- long rage and tendered his resignation after being fined £4,000 and banned from the dug-out for three years by the Scottish FA for misbehaviour at the touchline during a match last season.

In addition, McLean lost international midfielder Eamonn Bannon and top scorer Iain Ferguson, both to Hearts under freedom of contract. The little manager would appear to be in need of yet another of his well-known miracles.

Hearts have clearly strengthened and will once again be formidable after finishing second in the championship last time, but Aberdeen's recruitment has been confined mainly to management. Alex Smith, from St Mirren, and Jocky Scott and Drew Jarvie, both from Dundee, replaced the outgoing team of Ian Porterfield and Jimmy Mullen.

They signed Dutch goalkeeper Theo Snelders from Twente Enschede to replace Jim Leighton (left forManchester United) and with Charlie Nicholas a pale imitation of himself in his Celtic days, there is little prospect of the Pittodrie side immediately recovering their former strength.

JOINS EVERTON

insisted on the buying club paying VAT and all other 'extras', which in Cottee's case, totalled about £300,000.

Bettered

Cottee's agent, Jon Smith, was thus able to reclaim the British record in style. One of his other clients is Peter Beardsley, whose £1.9 million move from Newcastle to Liverpool a year ago was recently bettered by Paul Gascoigne's £2 million switch from Newcastle to Tottenham.

Cottee is looking for the move to one of the league's top clubs to boost his England career. He has three caps but has yet to start an international.

"My ambition has always been to establish myself in time for the 1990 World Cup in Italy," he says.

Cottee joined West Ham straight from school and has averaged a goal every third game in around 200 senior outings. In 1986/87, he hit 29 league and cup goals but last season, as West Ham struggled, he managed only 14.

Tony Cottee

LLSOP PREVIEWS THE NEW ENGLISH SEASON

and groan. Strange, though, isn't it that down the years the players and teams of supreme quality have always filled the standard terraces.

Last season the team of quality was Liverpool and they packed in the crowds wherever their roadshow took them. England can reasonably claim that their chances would have been enhanced by better performances from Liverpool's Footballer of the Year John Barnes and Peter Beardsley.

The Republic of Ireland were far more fortunate with Ronnie Whelan and Ray Houghton, who played on the European stage as they play for Liverpool. That's part down to luck, but part, also, I suspect, to the relative moods of the two camps.

Bobby Robson could not deflect or absorb the pressures, the Republic manager Jack Charlton never really had any to contend with, yet his personality and attitude always provided a shield anyway.

After the shambles of Germany, this really is the time to encourage the technical skills. With so many disenchanted football followers up and down the country, the game has nothing to lose and hopefully plenty to gain.

Liverpool remain the link with greater things and few would bet against Kenny Dalglish's side adding yet another League Championship trophy to the Anfield collection.

FA Cup final defeat by Wimbledon left them with a few unexpected wounds at the end of the season and that just might serve to remove any danger of complacency this coming campaign.

Yet again, then, Liverpool are the team to beat. Last season Manchester United were runners-up, but in reality they were never in the hunt. This time manager Alex Ferguson believes his side is better equipped for a title challenge.

The return of the aggressive Hughes to partner last season's top scorer at the club, Brian McClair, gives United potentially as lethal a front-line combination as any in the league. Ferguson has also attempted to save goals by signing Scotland keeper Jim Leighton.

But United's fortunes could depend more on morale than individual ability. Discontent was an obvious handicap last season with Paul McGrath and Norman Whiteside demanding transfers.

Everton have shared the Championship with their Mersey neighbours over the past few years, but last season, under Colin Harvey, they drifted way out of contention.

Harvey knew he had to strengthen his squad and was disappointed to lose the chase for Stewart. Cottee, he hopes, will compensate. He lost England right-back Gary Stevens to Rangers but picked up £1m and moved in for McDonald as his replacement.

North London should be represented in the pack. Arsenal have the look of stability as well as potential and they, like Liverpool, are anxious to make amends for a Cup final lapse. They lost that rousing Littlewoods Cup encounter with Luton.

Tottenham's struggles last winter and their investments this summer will put manager Terry Venables under intense pressure. This season the fans will expect progress — REAL progress.

BAYERN PLAY AT WEMBLEY

WEMBLEY'S exciting pre-season tournament looks like a triumph for progressive thinking. In fact, it is also a triumph for Italian television magnate Silvio Berlusconi.

Not only does he own the private TV station Canale 5 and control a string of other independents in the Italian regions, he also owns Italian champions Milan.

What more expressive example could there be of the converging direction of football and television?

Prestige football presentation is a big TV audience-puller in Italy and particularly in the Milan area when Milan are on the box.

That's why Milan hastily arranged those two end-of-season championship celebration matches against Real Madrid and Manchester United.

And that's why Milan are the key team at Wembley on August 13 and 14.

Television rights have been in big demand and, apart from Canale 5 and Berlusconi's other offshoots in Italy, the matches will be beamed to the United States. Domestic television coverage will be on ITV, though to what extent is still unknown.

Milan, Bayern Munich, Tottenham and Arsenal are said to be on around £100,000 each for participating in a four-team tournament which will not be run on the knock-out formula usual in such events in Spain, but on a league points system.

There is a reduced price for a season ticket for the two days and the staging of the matches could be the shape of things to come.

The capacity will be fixed to an all-seater 60,000 — which, given FIFA's interest in seeing all-seater stadia used for the World Cup — could soon be the restriction for England games, too.

It was thanks to this arrangement that the FA allowed the tournament to go ahead.

Pre-season tournaments have been a lively part of the scene for many years abroad, particularly in Spain but also in France, Belgium, Holland and West Germany.

Hopefully, Wembley will become a regular fixture — though this will depend on the shape of the domestic season.

It's been an enormous help that this year the Charity Shield is not until August 20 with a comparitively late start to the league season on August 27.

Bayern Munich are probably favourites for the Wembley trophy.

They are the only club who will already be into league competition — indeed, they have arranged the postponement of their Bundesliga match that weekend so as to be at Wembley.

USSR TEAM NOT TIRED

SOVIET UNION

VALERI LOBANOVSKI was probably more surprised on arrival back in Kiev by Tupolev special flight from Stuttgart than Jack Charlton between Dublin Airport and the City Centre!

TV, press, flags, wives, officials in formal dress, despite the heat, and a military band thronged the tarmac apron. His first words were to the effect that there is hardly time to rest with the World Cup qualifying competition only two months away.

Vasily Rats was more optimistic saying that the team was not as tired as after the World Cup in Mexico. He, too, had little time to draw breath with the league championship about to recommence.

Good performances from those left at home and not selected for Euro '88 such as Yakovenko, Yarentchuk and Dobrovolski wil mean a chance in the World Cup for which certainly the defence will be modified. The older generation will be phased out and players such Sukristov, a squad member in Germany, given the opportunity to claim a regular place.

The unlucky Kuznetsov will doubtless be the pillar around which Lobanovski will construct the back division.

One veteran who will be on his way is Sulakvelidze. The Georgian was pleased to have the chance to play in a major competition but now says he must make way for the next generation. As it happens he has offers from West Germany and Icelandic clubs.

Toulouse are also anxious, hoping that their signing, Vagis Khidiyatulin, will be able to leave Spartak Moscow for the South of France. By an irony he plans to join the club on whose ground he was sent off in last season's UEFA competition!

SPARTA DOUBLE

SPARTA PRAGUE completed the double for the second time when defeating Inter Bratislava the Slovak cup winners, 2-0 in Ružomberk, to take the Czechoslovak Trophy.

Ten thousand spectators were present in the tiny provincial ground to see goals by libero Chovanec, from a free kick, and Čabala, from a deflection, give veteran manger Václav Ježek a dream end to his latest spell as Sparta chief. In all he won the championship five times and the cup twice and has now handed over the champions to a former Sparta forward Josef Jarabinsky.

Though it might be thought a successful 64-year-old would be thinking of retirement or an adviser's job at most, this is not the case and the man who was also the mentor of the national team which won the European Championship in Belgrade in 1976 was soon packing his case to be in Stuttgart for the Italy v USSR European semi-final.

Where, when and with whom he will be working this team remains to be seen.

Also abroad for a lengthy spell are Josef Masopust and FA staff coach Milan Bokša who have been taken under contract by the Indonesian FA who want a squad built up for the 1994 World Cup.

They are joined by masseur Karel Pelech and all three are guaranteed a relatively modest stipend in US dollars for their services.

Meanwhile Dr Vengloš continues to follow World Cup opponents and other international developments with a notebook and tape recorder which could become as famous as the late Sepp Herberger's 'Notizbuch.'

An early test will be a friendly with Josef Hickersberger's improving Austria side in Bratislava in mid September. The Czechoslovaks will be trying to build on the good results against the Russians in Trnava (1–1) and Danes in Copenhagen (1–0) while forgetting the poor display in Bulgaria (0-2).

In the town where the national team manager spent his playing career, Bratislava, there is more optimism than for some time. Slovan are back in the top division through an ageing team may need some new recruits to do more than just stay up.

Inter, who merged two years ago with Petržalka, compete in the Cup-winners Cup though they lost the cup final to the champions, Sparta.

In Prague, Dukla will be looking for a lengthy run in the UEFA Cup following a successful second half of the league championship after eighteen months in the doldrums.

Ostrava will not be represented in Europe in the coming season, Tj Vítkovice having had a poor season in the championship despite reaching the Quarter Final of the UEFA Cup, and Baník having faded towards the end of the campaign.

The remarkable Dunajska Streda Club will, however, be in the European Cup draw, for the second time, and any visitor to their Corn Island Stadium should beware. The Slovak 'Wimbledon' should not be taken lightly.

BOB VAUGHAN

Czechoslovakia (left to right): JAN FIALA, LUDEK MIKLOSKO, JOSEF NOVAK, KAREL KULA, IVAN HASEK, LUBOS KUBIK, IVO KNOFLICEK, JOZEF CHOVANEC, TOMAS SKUHRAVY, FRANTISEK STRAKA and PETR JANECKA.

17 NENTORI . . . champions of Albania.

SHORT BREAK

WEST GERMANY

by Arthur Rotmil

WEST GERMAN footballers had one of the shortest summer break of any pros in Europe. Even before the final whistle was blown in the European Championships in Munich, four Bundesliga clubs were already starting the International Football Cup also known as the 'Inter-Toto'.

This is organised and sponsored by the state-run European pools companies to bridge the gap between the programmes of the various European leagues. Numerous teams from all over the Continent take part and though the gates are not high, the generous bonuses for the group winners are an inducement enough, plus the fact that players get early match practice and enjoy the travelling, instead of being herded together in a training camp.

Thus, Kaiserslautern, Karlsruher SC, Hannover and Bayer Uerdingen were taking part in the competition before the Bundesliga programme began on July 23 — much earlier than usual. This was because there are no fixtures scheduled between September 13 and October 1 due to the Olympic Games in Seoul, in which a West German national team is participating.

The first half of the Bundesliga programme will run until December 3. The winter break will last until February 18, while the championship season is due to end on June 17.

Most experts predict a duel between title holders Werder Bremen and the country's richest club Bayern Munich for the title. Werder have not made any significant player purchases, as they are putting their faith in the tried formation in which several younger players have gained valuable experience and hopefully the team became stronger.

Sweeper Gunnar Sauer 24, who made it into the European Championship squad, or Uli Borowka 26, the sturdy defender who actually played in some of the matches, 'keeper Oliver Reck 23, plus the strikers Frank Ordenewitz 23 and Frank Neubarth 25, who are on the threshold of the full national side, could help the Werderaner to retain their title.

Bayern Munich, still smarting from their failure to win their fourth championship on the trot, have registered the biggest turnover of players in the summer pause. Keeper Pfaff, defenders Eder and Brehme, midfielder Matthäus, and strikers Rummenigge, Lunde and Mark Hughes have all gone. Thon, Reuter (both midfield), Grahammer and Johnsen (both defence) and striker Ekstroem have all come in.

Team manager Jupp Heynckes is now under pressure even within the club. General manager Uli Hoeness is said to be restless because the costly team failed to win anything last term.

Newcomer Johnny Ekstroem, on whom so much depends up front, says: "Everything is marvellous here. A wonderful site (Bayern's training quarters are on the shores of Lake Tegernsee) — the whole atmosphere is "wunderbar".

Heynckes was also satisfied with the preparation. The Bavarians played 11 practice matches against varied opposition including the top French outfit Bordeaux and Nürnberg.

A lot of interest is centred on the two Bundesliga newcomers Stuttgarter Kickers and St. Pauli. Their promotion means that Stuttgart and Hamburg will have two Bundesliga representatives each. While St. Pauli were already once in the Bundesliga 10 years ago, the Kickers are real novices in the upper sphere.

Their regulars collected £6,000 for promotion and now nobody wants to leave the club. Team manager Manfred Krafft has already taken advantage of the fact that several players' contracts are running out and he will engage three new players, "but only at a modest cost" he reaffirms.

The Kickers' star player is the Finnish international 'keeper Kari Laukannen 24, a baker (!), who has gained 19 caps.

St. Pauli's new team chief Helmut Schulte was delighted to sign striker Waldemar Steubing from Ulm who was chased by several clubs. Schulte has done wonders with the brown-and-whites, having taken over in mid-season from Willi Reimann who was lured away by Hamburg.

ALBANIA

THE 1987-88 Albanian championship was the longest ever played.

The FSHF decided that the traditional home-and-away league championship was just not good enough and reorganised the competition this past season into three stages. At the end of the marathon, 17 Nëntori proved the most consistent and were worthy champions.

Since the start of October 1987 Nëntori headed the table. It was difficult for them to protect that lead, but their stong will and temperament, their resilience and team spirit earned them the title for the seventh time.

Nëntori ended the season with a seven-point advantage. Every man played his part but we must mention first the top scorer of the championship: Agustin Kola, whose 18 goals contributed greatly to their success.

Also worth mentioning here are the other striker Arben Minga, midfielders Bedri Omuri and Mirel Josa and experienced defenders Hodja and Lekbello.

Coach is Shyqyri Rreli, former boss of the national team who has now been reappointed coach of the Albanian representative side.

Under Rreli, Nentori scored the greatest number of goals in the championship, 59, and lost only six matches, fewer than any other team.

For the third year Flamurtari of Vlora were the runners-up. Then came Labinoti of Elbasani, Apolonia of Fieri, Besa of Kavaja and Vllaznia of Shkodra. These were the first six teams of the final championship group.

In the second group, during the play-offs, the aim was to avoid relegation to the second division. The weakest proved to be Luftëtari while Dinamo must play off against the runners-up from the second division, Naftëtari. This is the first time Dinamo have ever been seriously endangered by relegation.

GEZIM NUSHI

MILAN R
INTER W

ITALY

MILAN can do no wrong; neighbours Internazionale can, it appears, do nothing right.

Champions Milan have taken advantage of the three-foreigners extension to add Frank Rijkaard to their collection of Dutch masters (Gullit and Van Basten).

Inter, by comparison, will put their faith this season in 'mere' European semi-finalists, in West Germany's Lother Matthaus and Andy Brehme, both from Bayern Munich.

Milan are backing winners, Inter appear to be backing losers. In more ways than one.

Having sold off Karl-Heinz Rummenigge last autumn after injuries destroyed his — and Inter's confidence — the nerazzurri appear to be heading back into similar trouble with Algerian Rabah Madjer.

Inter appeared to have done some sharp business at the end of this past season when they somehow persuaded Bayern Munich to pull out of their signed and sealed agreement to purchase Madjer from FC Porto this summer. The Bayern deal had been so secure that Porto had decided Madjer was no more use to them and had loaned him out, in mid-season to Spanish club Valencia.

So why did Bayern suddenly pull out? Did they know something Inter didn't? It's beginning to look like it.

From JANE NOTTAGE in Rome

Madjer was injured playing for Valencia in the Spanish first division against Murcia on February 21. The injury was diagnosed as a severe muscle strain and sidelined him for several weeks. Not long enough, apparently.

The damage was not a strain it was a tear. It didn't heal properly, Madjer hurried back into action too soon.

At any rate, when it comes to his medical check with Inter's staff it was quickly obvious that he could not go flat-out without considerable pain. X-rays and examinations produced the inevitable conclusion that Madjer either needed a long rest or an operation to put the muscle straight. But that would rule him out until mid-autumn.

At this point Porto suddenly showed interest after six months of ignoring the Algerian. There was no way, they said, that Inter were going to order surgery on their player. To which Inter responded by threatening to call off the whole deal and that presented the peculiar spectacle of both clubs discovering they were rivals in the chase to buy Rui Aguas from Benfica . . . as replacement with both clubs for the same player!

Now Inter suddenly realised that the need to get Madjer first was not quite as pressing as they had thought. Italy's presence in the Olympic football finals means that the Italian league is not starting until October 7. Thus Madjer still had more than three months in which to let the injury heal. Thus Inter recalled him from holiday to undergo further medical checks to see if rest could resolve the problem and save any further confrontations with Porto.

No such luck. All Inter's specialists were agreed; to spend £1.3 million on Madjer would be to risk money down the drain . . . just as Inter wasted millions on a succession of injury-prone foreigners such as Hansi Muller, Ludo Coeck and Rummenigge. Madjer would have to go back to Porto, his place in coach Giovanni Trapattoni's scheme of things being taken by Fiorentina's Argentine centre-forward, Ramon Diaz.

But it's an ill wind, as they say. Bad news for Inter was good news for Juventus. Since Porto had budgeted their own summer transfer business in Portugal on the Madjer fee they now had to sell someone else — and thus Juventus were able to snap up Rui Barros, the so-called 'Portuguese Maradona'.

THE BIG SIGNINGS

ASCOLI: Arslanovic (Dinamo Zagreb), Cvetkovic (Red Star), Favero (Juventus), Ferrario, Bagni (Napoli).
ATALANTA: Pryyz (Bayer Uerdingen).
BOLOGNA: Demol (Anderlecht).
CESENA: Holmqvist (Young Boys Bern), Calcaterra (Inter).
FIORENTINA: Dunga (Pisa), Borgonov (Como).
INTER: Madjer (FC Porto via Valencia, to be confirmed), Matthaus, Brehme (both Bayern Munich), Bianchi (Cesena), Berti

HUNGARY

SOME doubt over the 'regularity' of certain results meant a delay in crowning Honvéd as champions. Békéscsaba won the Cup, rather surprisingly defeating Honvéd in the Final.

SC Tatabánya, the runners up, and Ujpesti Dózsa are the UEFA Cup representatives while Debrecen and Kaposvar descend to the second division. The latter only managed 17 points but the north easterners could have avoided the drop with a couple more points.

Videoton, newcomers Siófok, the Cup Winners, and Xalaegerszeg were all also in danger to the last and it may be close between the survivors and promoted Veszprémi SE and Dunaújvárosi Kohász for safety positions when the new season begins on August 13 with the promoted clubs respectively at home to visitors from Budapest, Vasas, and Tatabánya.

On the last day of August there are no championship matches as the national team travels to Linz for a friendly with Austria. It is almost certainly the first time an 'A' encounter with the 'Erbfeind' has not been played in Vienna or Budapest, and to be hoped all 22,000 places may be taken in the Linzer Stadion. Only 5,000 saw the spring crushing of Balint's team in the Népstadion in May so not only honour but the team manager's chair may be at stake.

Meanwhile Haladás have begun well in Group 5 of the Intertoto Summer Cup, seeing off Young Boys in Szombathely by three goals to one.

The clubs will want to put things right by the time the league season and European Cup games begin, and the MLSZ, the Hungarian FA, by October 19 and the first World Cup clash in Budapest with the Irish.

BOB VAUGHAN

FRANCE

THE appointment of Gerard Houllier at the FFF alongside Henri Michel was a bombshell indeed.

From Andre Duclos

Not because France, under Michel, have much distinguished themselves of late, not because Houllier isn't widely recognised as a talented man, a gifted manager. Not because Houllier's name had not been associated with the position of national technical director.

But that was a good couple of years ago and more, when his Paris Saint-Germain team, which he had just taken over, was streaking away to a remarkable unbeaten record start to the season. Houllier had worked a small miracle in no time at all, charming players who under the previous, more abrasive, managership had wilted. Now the likes of Dominique Rocheteau were flourishing.

It was, said those close to the team, as much a matter of shrewd practical psychology as anything else; with Houllier, the players now had someone to go to, somebody who could listen to and sort out their problems.

Paris SG duly went on to win the title in style but the following season, the whole thing fell suddenly apart. Houllier's essays in the transfer market proved disastrous, an attempt to impose new tactics on the side was a failure. And so to last season which was worse still. Again, transfer policy was suspect. The mysterious acquisition of a fading Ray Wilkins from Milan made as little sense in practice as it did in prospect.

Houllier publicly acknowledged that Wilkins needed a holiday, that he had been playing non-stop. Apprised of this, a discontented Wilkins, dropped from the team, inquired why in that case Houllier was making him run his butt off.

Of course the player Houllier had really wanted was Glenn Hoddle, but as we know, a bizarre set of circumstances led to his own friend and protégé. Arsène Wenger of Monaco, getting Hoddle from under his nose. Wilkins was no substitute. He couldn't hold a place, against the challenge of the Argentine cap winger, Calderon; even though Susic, the unpredictable Yugoslav, was in and out of the side. Off he went to Glasgow Rangers.

The story was that Paris SG couldn't afford to sack Houllier, because he had such a lucrative contract. He was kicked upstairs, the youth team coach was put in charge, then they took charge together. By the skin of their teeth and a late rally in morale and in play, Paris SG scraped clear of the play-offs.

No one doubted that Houllier was a talented fellow; but it seemed hardly the moment to put him in charge of the French national coaching and technical programme. Perhaps in this new and very different job, the former English teacher, who once spent a year teaching in Liverpool, will find a new lease of life. Let's hope so.

His successor is Tomislav Ivic which means, strangely, that the last two managers of Porto are now in Paris. Artur Jorge remains in charge of Matra Racing, where truth to tell he had a pretty disappointing first season. Ivic, the

HO
BOM

Yugoslav who once had Ajax, takes over Paris Saint-Germain after easily winning the Portuguese title, in his first — and only — season with the Oporto club.

"I am a winning manager," Ivic has announced, which is plainly true, though he didn't emulate Artur Jorge in winning the European Cup and scarcely helped the Porto team by playing for so long with just one attacker. He did have disciplinary reasons for keeping out of the side the captain and local idol Gomes; but when Gomes at length came back, a spate of goals suggested Ivic might have been wrong.

Ivic says he has come to Paris SG because he thinks he can "do something interesting" there, that he wants to learn French language and culture, that he believes in the team. He admits he cannot train Paris SG nor expect them to play as Porto did; at Porto, he says, he found an extraordinary, well organised team, with great experience and great players — "Yes, it was easy to work with them. Here, I have found other

IGHT RONG

(Fiorentina).
JUVENTUS: Marocchi (Bologna), Galia (Verona), Altobelli (Inter).
LAZIO: Gutierrez (River Plate), Ruben Sosa (Zaragoza), Dezotti (Newell's Old Boys).
LECCE: Vincze (Tatabanya).
MILAN: Rijkaard (Sporting Lisbon via Zaragoza).
NAPOLI: Fusi (Sampdoria), Giuliani (Verona), Alemao (Atletico Madrid), Crippa (Torino).
PESCARA: Romario, Geovani (Vasca da Dama).
PISA: Been (Feyernnord), Severeyns (Antwerp).
ROMA: Rizzitelli (Cesena), Renato, Andrade (Flamengo).
SAMPDORIA: Dossena (Udinase), Victor (Barcelona).
TORINO: Muller (Sao Paulo), Edu (Portuguesa), Skoro (Dinamo Zagreb).
VERONA: Caniggia, Troglia (River Plate), Galderisi, Bortolazzi (Milan).

BAGNI . . . sold off by Napoli.

POLAND

ELITE PLAY-OFFS

THE Polish season ended with the play-offs for promotion to the 'Elite' and relegation to the first division decided just a month before the new term begins on 31st July. Zaglebie Lubin could only manage a two all draw at home in their return with Górnik, who had won the first play-off encounter in Walbrzych 2-1, and were relegated.

Lechia Gdansk suffered a similar fate losing at home 1-0 and drawing away 2-2 with Olympia Poznan who stay up. Baltyk Gdynia and Stal Stalowawola, the last two in the championship table, go down automatically.

The four promoted clubs are Ruch Chorzow and Stal Mielec, winners of their respective sections of the 'second class' and regaining top status after a short absence, plus Wisla Cracow and Jastrzebie who got through the play-offs for promotion between the second and third placed clubs in the first division.

The composition of the 16 strong Elite League for 1988/89 is as follows — Gornik Zabrze, the champions, Katowice, Legia Warsaw, LKS Lodz, Widzew Lodz, Slask Wroclaw, Szombierki, Bytom, Jagiellonia Bialystok, Lech Poznan, Pogon Szcecin, plus Gornik Walbrzuch and Olympia, the two play off 'Survivors' and the four promotees.

BOB VAUGHAN

ULLIER ABSHELL

qualities, and I am satisfied. Other ambitions. All just as interesting."

Ivic, who won several titles in Holland with Ajax, another in Belgium with Anderlecht, has the right to call himself "a winning manager." His French in fact is already serviceable. But has he the players to pull off yet another success?

Dealings

The transfer policy has hardly been exciting. The two defenders, Rico and Dreossi, have arrived from Nice. Pilorget is back from loan to Cannes, as is Polaniok. Nothing to compare with the dealings of many of the other clubs. Not least Caen, so surprisingly promoted from the Second Division, who among others have snapped up on a three year contract Brian Stein from Luton. He could get goals.

But will Clive Allen, who has cost Bordeaux such a lot of money, and whose arrival has, as foreseen, led to the departure of little Phillippe Fargeon? He is now back in Switzerland, where he originally made his name, this time with Servette of Geneva.

Yanick Stopyra will play alongside Allen, having arrived from Toulouse, whose chief capture is the 29-year-old sweeper of the Russian national team, Khidiatulin. The Spartak defender laughed when asked why his club had released him and not his colleague, the 'keeper Dasayev saying they must evidently think Dasyevm more important. He regards himself, he says, as an ambassador.

Mark Hateley seems to be staying with Monaco, and he will have the gifted black French international José Touré, from Bordeaux, to help him this season, besides Glenn Hoddle. Enzo Scifo is on loan from Inter to Bordeaux, determined to rebuild a reputation which sagged badly last season in Italy.

Finally, the first coaching casualty of the new season was Gerard Banide, demoted by Marseille after taking one point from the first two games.

HOME DEFEAT FOR CHEMIE

EAST GERMANY

THE mid-August start to the 1988-89 East German Oberliga season meant a short break particularly for the clubs involved in the Intertoto Summer Cup.

HFC Chemie received Brøndy from Copenhagen in the opening match of Group 3 and suffered a 2-0 home defeat. Halle reserve goalkeeper Adler indeed had to swoop around his goalmouth like an eagle to keep the home side in the tie but could not prevent goals by Christensen in the 29th and 62nd minutes.

The Brøndby players clearly wanted to show new manager Ebbe Skovdahl, back in Denmark after six months with Benfica, what they could do whereas the Hallenser were reckoned by their manager, Karl Trautmann, to be lacking freshness after a hard week's training.

Four and a half thousand was a reasonable attendance for such a summer match.

Magdeburg could also be satisfied with the interest in their match with Bayer Uerdingen. 11,000 were present to see the 'Werkself' from Uerdingen near Krefeld defeat 1. FCM 2-1 which was less satisfactory from the view of the Elbesiders.

Uerdingen missed an early chance but took an 11th minute lead through Fach. Seconds before half time Wuckel put Magdeburg level but missed chances cost the home team the game which was clinched eleven minutes from time by a Kirchhoff header from Hellmann's centre. Former international Streich, now managing Magdeburg, blamed a lack of concentration for the defeat while Rolf Schafstall felt the first half performance of his side merited the points. Magdeburg now meet Aarhus and FC Swarovski Tirol.

FC Karl-Marx-Stadt had to travel to Sweden for their tie with Malmoe in Group 1. Manager Meyer described the 5-0 thrashing his side received as an informative lesson. Roy Hodgson thought the result a little high but added that his team did take its chances, the Swedish league leaders being too strong for the middle table GDR outfit.

Promoted Energie Cottbus and Sachsenring Zwickau meanwhile make their Oberliga preparations at home. Energie, the yoyo team of East German football, return to the top flight yet again but, as usual, without any stars.

Zwickau prepare without last season's manager, former international goalkeeper, Juergen Croy.

The man with 94 caps has decided not to continue and has taken up a new job as sport and gymnastics adviser in the Town Hall.

BOB VAUGHAN

HOPES ARE HIGH

BULGARIA

ABSENCE in West Germany from Euro '88 has, for Bulgarian fans been to some degree mitigated by the Republic of Ireland's success as attention turns to the World Cup qualifying games this autumn.

The win in Rotterdam has raised hopes but chances may not be helped by top scorer Sirakov departing for Zaragoza and midfielder Kolev joining former Lok Plovdiv manager Christo Bonev on a three year contract at Panathinaikos.

The Bulgarian FA's decision to let current internationals under 28 leave will be of interest to scouts elsewhere in Southern Europe!

The BFA has, however, its hands full with not only international preparations but also a scandal in Division II.

On the last day of the season Madara visited Neftochimik who needed to win in order to stay up. The match began late and this has been proved as premeditated. Neftochimik won the match 6-2 but the FA Committee looking in to the affair has awarded the points to Rila, who stay down. Neftochimik are relegated to Division 3 and the referee and match observer have been suspended.

BOB VAUGHAN

GRONINGEN IN EUROPE

HOLLAND

from Simon Kuper

GRONINGEN will join Ajax as Holland's representatives in next season's UEFA Cup. The ambitious Groningers have had a miserable year, finishing 11th in the league and only narrowly avoiding relegation, but by winning the Dutch play-offs they qualified for Europe.

The Dutch FA allots a UEFA Cup place to the club that wins the end-of-season play-offs. The league season is divided into four periods of eight or nine matches, and the winner of each period qualifies for the play-offs.

Ineligible

Groningen won the fourth period, in which they gained 13 points from nine matches. Ajax and PSV did even better, but both clubs had already qualified for European football and so were ineligible for the play-offs.

Groningen, a rich club, started this season hoping to qualify for the UEFA Cup more simply — by finishing third in the league. They had an expensive side, including renowned players like Jurrie Koolhof, Rene Eijckelkamp and Frans Thijssen (the former Ipswich midfielder).

Unfortunately, the team lacked all cohesion, and after only four league matches manager Rob Jacobs was sacked.

His replacement was Martin Koeman, the father of Dutch internationals Ronald and Erwin. He introduced a more vigorous style of football, and towards the end of the season it started to pay off.

Nevertheless, Groningen were underdogs when the play-offs started. The other clubs involved, Twente Enschede, Willem II, Tilburg and VVV Venlo had all impressed during the regular season. Then Groningen lost their first play-off match 0-2 at home to Twente, and the odds against them lengthened even further.

Modest

Yet Groningen went on to win the play-offs. They finished with a very modest record indeed — seven points from six matches — but that was still a point clear of Twente and VVV.

The man who contributed most to Groningen's recent revival was an Englishman, Gary Brooke. Fans of Tottenham Hotspur will remember Brooke, a right-half who played 73 matches for Spurs but never won a regular first-team place.

After twelve years at Spurs Brooke was badly hurt in a car crash, and the London club gave him a free transfer. He joined Norwich, but there he soon quarrelled with the manager, Mel Machin. Although the supporters were on Brooke's side, Machin dropped him.

Impressed

In February 1987 Groningen discovered Brooke playing in Norwich's Reserves. The Dutch were impressed. Chairman Renze de Vries said: "I know nothing about football, but all his passes arrive, he takes all the free-kicks and he's always unmarked. I'm enjoying it."

De Vries took Brooke back to Holland. There he started badly, but gradually he began to establish himself. His acceleration, his crosses and his intelligence have become Groningen's main weapons. But Brooke, 27, is returning to England, because his wife is suffering from homesickness. Groningen will lose their key midfielder, and Brooke will lose what is probably his only chance to play in a European tournament again.

HOLLAND'S Danish connection . . . PSV's Ivan Nielsen (left) and Jan Heintze.

TRANSFER MARKET BATTLE

SWISS champions Xamax Neuchatel and cup winners Grasshappers have been outscoring each other even before the first ball was kicked in anger this season — in the transfer market.

Record

Xamax reported the most spectacular signing so far, by capturing the international centre forward Hanspeter Zwicker from St. Gallan for £320,000. This represents a record transfer deal between two Swiss clubs.

SWITZERLAND

The 28-year-old, 23 times capped striker has signed a four-year contract which will bring him £480,000. St. Gallen thus concluded a highly profitable sale, for Zwicker cost them nothing when he was engaged three years ago from Bregenz/Dornbirn on a free transfer.

Xamax's other major signings include the Argentinian Claudio Borghi 24, who was loaned out from Milan and the West German Matthias Baranowski 21, (ex Köln).

Borghi made his name with Argentinos Juniors, he boasts outstanding ball control and is a schemer as well as a goal poacher. He was considered the greatest prospect in Argentinian football since Maradona. Personal family tragedy has upset his deployment in the 1986 World Cup, but Milan nevertheless took him on. Because of a surplus of foreigners he was loaned out to AS Como.

Now, because team manager Arrigo Sacchi persuaded club president Silvio Berlusconi to buy Frank Rijkaard and Milan thus acquired their permitted three foreigners (the Dutchmen Marco Van BAsten and Ruud Gullit are the others;, Borghi was once again "farmed" out on a loan basis. Baranowski is a great talent and has already played in the West German Under-21 side.

Grasshoppers reacted by taking on the half-New Zealander Wynton Rufer from Aarau. The striker has dual nationality (he played for New Zealand in the 1982 World Cup finals) and will link up with the new arrivals and internationals Thomas Bickel (ex FC Zurich) and Andy Halter (ex-Lucerne).

PORTO ON TOP

THE bitter rivalry between Porto and Benfica has been fought out in the Portuguese league, in the cup and in the transfer market.

First Porto charged miles ahead to win the championship at a canter; then they beat their Lisbon rivals in the cup semi-finals; then they rubbed salt into those wounds by signing Benfica's two key players — striker Rui Aguas and sweeper Dito.

Aguas was a great success in Benfica's run to last season's Champions' Cup Final and Porto had to head off several foreign clubs — including the Italians from Pescara and Internazionale — to clinch the deal.

Benfica would not have minded him going to Italy. But to see him moving north to the Antas stadium was more than fans and officials could take.

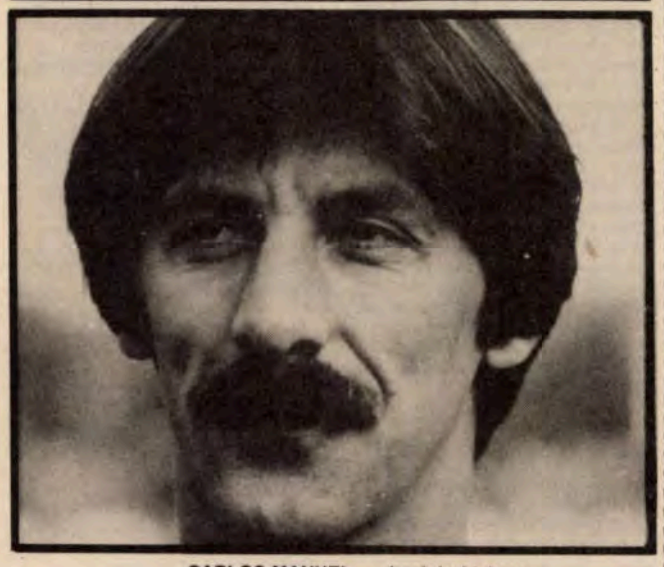
Porto president Pinto da Costa justified his dramatic swoop as mere defensive tactics because Benfica had, he alleged, earlier persuaded several other domestic stars not to move to Porto.

Benfica responded by "cutting diplomatic relations" with Porto.

The Eagles of Lisbon may find more strenuous opposition coming from local neighbours Sporting this coming season

Sporting's newly re-elected president, Jorge Goncalves, has been scouring Europe and South America for new players on whom to splash the £3 million fee received from Milan for Dutch star Frank Rijkaard.

But perhaps his most controversial move was to bring home veteran midfielder Carlos Manuel from Swiss club Sion.



CARLOS MANUEL . . . back in Lisbon.

STEAUA STAND FIRM

RUMANIA

STEAUA won the Rumanian league-and-cup double but there was chaos in the cup final against Dinamo Bucharest — who were also league runners-up.

With the score 1-1 just before the end Steaua scored what appeared a late winner, only to have it disallowed by referee Dan Petrescu. Steaua's players protested to the referee, fighting began in the crowd and spilled over onto the pitch.

Steaua refused to play on so Dinamo's players seized the cup and claimed victory by default.

Some hopes! The next day the sports supreme committee decided that the referee had been wrong to disallow the goal, suspended both him and his linesmen, and proclaimed Steaua 2-1 winners! It remains to be seen how FIFA will view this overruling of a match official.

Steaua had earlier secured the league crown in more orthodox fashion by taking two points at Timisoara on the last day of the championship. Dinamo defeated FC Olt 6-0 but it was not enough to catch the old and new champions in what for weeks had been a two horse race.

Steaua finished up 24 points ahead of third-placed Victoria Bucharest.

Poli Timisorara only stay up as Petrolul also lost their last game, and are relegated, ironically at Suceava. CSM also go down at the end of a disappointing season both domestically and at international level.

In the second division FC Constanta are the champions.

BOB VAUGHAN

AUSTRIA

KREMSER HEROES

AUSTRIAN football's unlikeliest heroes are the part-timers of Second Division Kremser SC. This provincial club from the well known wine producing area of the federal state of Lower Austria, became the first from a lower division to win the Cup and will thus represent the country for the first time in Europe — in the Cup-winners Cup.

In the semi-final they beat another Second Division outfit Mödling by 2-1 a.e.t. In the final, staged over two legs, the Kremser drew 10,000 enthusiastic fans who celebrated a marvellous 2-0 win over strongly fancied FC Tirol.

Only 8,000 witnessed the return in Innsbruck where Tirol stormed and threatened to overrun the outsiders. But Krems scored first and inspired by the super-keeper Angerer they held out into the closing stages, before conceding two further goals in a 3-1 defeat. But they won the trophy on the away goals rule!

Staying

Tirol under their famous manager Ernst Happel, finished the season empty handed. In the championship they finished only sixth and thus missed out on a UEFA-Cup place and now failed in the cup too. Nevertheless, Happel is staying on and will try to do better with a strengthened team next term. But the future of their precocious West German international schemer Hansi Müller is doubtful.

For Krems, ironically enough, their successful team chief Ernst Weber has been lured to Admira Wacker. The move was apparently decided upon before the "historic" cup victory. Possible successor is the former famous international strier Hans Krankl, lately with Wiener Sportklub.

Top scorer in the First Division was the Yugoslav Stojadinovic, who in 36 matches scored 27 goals. He hit four in the last game, a 6-1 win over Grazer AK. Second was Walter Knaller (Admira) on 26, third the German Harald Krämer (Sturm Graz) with 24.

SOUTH AMERICAN LEAGUE SCENE REVIEW

DANUBI WIN IN URUGUA

ANOTHER small club, Danubio, won the first of the Uruguayan season's tournaments — the "Torneo Competencia" — in which the 13 first division clubs play each other once and the winners qualify directly for the end-of-season play-off for Libertadores Cup places.

Danubio, coached by former Nacional player Ildo Maneiro, lined up a young team composed of players who had all come through the club's lower divisions and which had really been formed by former Uruguayan international Luis Cubilla who was coach at the club until the beginning of the year and has now moved to Olimpia in Paraguay. Current first division champions are Defensor, another small club.

Fired

Current Libertadores Cup holders, Peñarol, finished second which, at least, was not good enough for their former international striker and current coach, Fernando Morena.

He said: "When I was a player and didn't score goals, they fired the coach. Now it's my turn to go."

Nacional, Uruguay's other big club, finished halfway down the table. They, like a number of clubs, used this tournament to experiment for the games when they were engaged in the South American Super Cup for former Libertadores Cup winners.

By the start of the first division championship, Peñarol had replaced Morena by Roque Maspoli, their former international goalkeeper who won the World Cup with Uruguay in 1950 and also coached the national team when they won the "Mundialito" played in Montevideo in 1981.

The championship started with only one foreign player, Peruvian forward Juan Cabanillas, playing for Wanderers , but three Uruguayans who had gone to play abroad were back — winger Venancio Ramos and goalkeeper Fernando Alves, both former internationals who were back from Argentina and Colombia respectively to play for Peñarol while centreforward Carlos De Lima joined Nacional on loan from Brazil's Botafogo.

At press time two matches had been played in the first division with champions Defensor and Cerro jointly topping the table with full points. Peñarol, a point behind, had beaten their traditional rivals, Nacional 2-1 with their leading scoerer, Adolfo Barán netting both goals after six and 67 minutes. Ernesto Vargas had tied the score after 57 minutes, but Nacional complained that the referee, Luis Da Rosa, had robbed them of victory by anulling a goal and they want foreign referees to take charge of future matches between the two clubs.

Rotti (P) and Revelez (N) were sent off early in the match for fighting and the teams lined up as follows:

Peñarol: Ferro, Rotti, Matosas, Herrera, Perdoma, Rivero, Vidal (Goncalves), Da Silva, Baran, Viera, Cabrera (Villar).

Nacional: Seré, Savaria, Revelez, Gómez, Cardaccio, Saldaña, Vargas, Moran (Lopez), Castro, Lemos, Olivera (Ostolaza).

ARGENTINA: San Lorenzo won the post-season two-legged knock-out between the second to eighth placed teams plus National B division promotion winners Deportivo Mandiyú of Corrientes for a place in this year's Libertadores Cup together with champions Newell's Old Boys, but not before their players were the victims of further violence.

As mentioned in last month's *World Soccer*, an explosion in their changing room before a league match in Córdoba has seriously injured San Lorenzo defender Claudio Zacarias whose career still seems in doubt. Now, before their last match San Lorenzo players were attacked by hooligans among their own fans in their changing room before a mid-week practice session.

San Lorenzo were runners-up to Newell's in the championship, but the players could not reach agreement on payment with their club officials and it was widely believed that their president, Fernando Miele, sent the "fans" to attack the players.

Banfield, only promoted last season, were relegated again at the end of it on average points obtained over the last three seasons (with only the last season's points counting in their case). Unión Santa Fe accompanied them down following a playoff with Racing Cordoba with whom they had shared the same average.

ARGENTINE TITLE WINNERS: (Professional first division since 1931, national championship since 1986) 17 — River Plate; 12 — Boca Juniors; 8 — Independiente; 6 — Racing Club (Avellaneda); 5 — San Lorenzo; 2 — Estudiantes de La Plata, Newell's Old boys; 1 — Chacarita Juniors, Huracán, Quilmes, Argentinos Juniors, Rosario Central.

BOLIVIA: Bolivar, of La Paz, won the first leg of the final for the Bolivian championship by 6-0 at home, but in the end they needed a third match with extra time to take the title for the eighth time.

Oriente Petrolero won the second leg at home in Santa Cruz to force a third playoff which took place on neutral ground in Cochabamba.

Hero

Here Bolivia were leading 2-0 12 minutes after the break, but Oriente Petrolero fought back to equalize to force extra time. But Bolivar won easily in the end, scoring three extra time goals to win 5-2, two of them through centreforward Fernando Salinas who was the hero of the day with four goals.

Shortly after winning the title Bolivar's coach, Argentine Jorge Habegger was chosen to take over the national squad and Ramiro Blacutt was signed as club coach.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS (since 1958): 8 — Jorge Wilsterman (Cochabamba); 7 — Bolivar (La Paz); 5 — The Strongest (La Paz); 4 — Municipal (La Paz); 3 — Oriente Petrolero (La Paz); Blooming (Santa Cruz).

CHILE: Only first divison clubs reached the quarterfinals of the DIGEDER Cup pre-season tournament which brought together all first and second division clubs — a total of 40 playing in four sections from which the top two qualified.

An outstanding performance was put up by Universidad de Chile in spite of their having sold several key players to foreign clubs lately. The return of one of their former playing idols, international defender Alberto Quintano, as coach and his mixture of veterans and youngsters in the team has worked wonders.

Novelty

Although many clubs used this pre-season tournament to try out players, Universidad de Chile's 2-1 defeat of Santiago rivals Colo Colo, drew 80,000 spectators to the national stadium.

Last season's first division champions, Universidad Catolica finished a comfortable second in their group of this tournament which had as a novelty that there had to be a winner of each match — with a penalty shoot-out in the event of a draw — while a team winning by a margin of three or more goals got three points instead of the usual two.

The quarter-final draw was Cobresal v Colo Colo, Huachipato v Universidad Catolica, Union Española v Fernández Vial, Deportes Iquique v Universidad de Chile.

At press time Santiago's municipal authorities had stopped the construction of Universidad Catolica's new stadium due to building irregularities, but it appears that protests of residents of the posh Los Condes district, venue of the stadium, were behind it.

ECUADOR: Ecuador's champions, Barcelona of Guayaquil recently inaugurated their new 75,000-capacity stadium — the most modern in South America — with Libertadores Cup holders Peñarol of Uruguay and Spain's Barcelona taking part in an inaugural four-team tournament, but the Guayaquil club's poor form continues.

Emelec (Ecuador) won the tournament for the "Ciudad de Guayaquil" Cup beating Barcelona 1-0 in the final. Spain's Barcelona was third and Peñarol fourth.

Barcelona, sharing fourth place in the league with this year's other Libertadores Cup participant, Filanbanco, fired their Argentine coach, Cesar Reinoso and had not signed a replacement at press-time.

BRAZIL: Vasco da Gama retained the Carioca (Rio de Janeiro) title by beating Flamengo 2-1 and 1-0 in two title playoffs, the second one rather rough, which showed the low standard to which Brazilian soccer has sunk in recent years.

The final match, which Vasco only needed to draw as they went into this playoff series with a bonus point (for winning the third round of the championship) would have filled the 200,000-capacity Maracaná stadium in the old days, but drew only 30,000 fans.

Final

Vasco da Gama won the second stage of the Rio championship for the Rio Cup and then the third stage for which only four teams qualified — Vasco, first stage winners Flamengo and two other teams which had collected most points in the two previous rounds — Fluminense and Americano.

Vasco had shown themselves to be the best team of the season winning 21 of their 27 games, drawing three and losing three and it had been 38 years since they last won two titles in a row.

Meanwhile the São Paulo championship entered its final stage with the top two teams from each of two groups in both states qualifying for final rounds divided into two groups. Group 1 has International, Sao José, Guarani

ED BY ERIC WEIL

IO

AY

and XV de Jaú while Corinthians, Sao Paulo, Santos and Palmeiras are in group 2.

BRAZIL — Rio de Janeiro (Carioca League since 1906): 26 — Fluminense; 21 — Flamengo; 17 — Vasco da Gama; 12 — Botafogo; 7 — America; 2 — Bangú; 1 — Payssandú, São Cristovao.

VENEZUELA: Maritimo are on the way to retaining their title leading Caracas FC by two points with five games to go in the final round.

PERU: the regional championships started following several postponements owing to failure to agree on its format and a strike by referees over payment.

The Metropolitan section is being played by 12 teams in two section with Colegio San Agustin and Union Huaral topping the tables after three games. There is also a northern, central and southern zone.

PARAGUAY: Sol de America won the first round of the first division championship with defending champions Cerro Porteño second.

They take 2.5 and 1.5 bonus points respectively into the final round to be played at the end of the season between the top two teams of each round.

Ubaldo Fillol, now captain of Racing Club (Avellaneda) holds aloft the new "Joao Havelange" Super Cup for Libertadores Cup winners of which his Argentine club became the first winners by beating Cruzeiro (Brazil) in the two-legged final.

URIBE A REBEL

THE Colombian professional season re-started after almost a month's break — during which the Colombian national team played in the United States and Europe — with the second championship, the "Finalización".

The 15 teams showed few changes except that Cali's America snapped up another leading Colombian player, Pompilio Paez from Pereira, while they were without their coach, Gabriel Ochoa Uribe, who had been in charge for the last nine years during which the club won six national titles and reached the final of the Libertadores Cup three times.

Ochoa Uribe, a doctor who had been in Europe for the last six months on holiday and studying the latest soccer tactics, returned to find that the club had brought back Peruvian international midfielder Julio Cesar Uribe.

Squad

Uribe is one of the best players in Colombia, but he is somewhat of a rebel and Ochoa Uribe had taken him out of the squad last year.

At first assistant coach Humberto Ortiz, who had been in charge during Ochoa Uribés absence, also resigned, but now it seems he will continue with Ochoa Uribe, long considered the best Colombian coach, carrying on as technical advisor.

America leads the second stage ("Finalización tournament) and seems to be in form for the start of this years while Medellin's Nacional — fielding only Colombian players and the basis of the national team — are second but top of the overall standings which put the top eight into the end-of-season final round for the title.

America are second in this. Millionarios, the other Colombian club in this year's Libertadores Cup, are however not in top form and share fifth place among the 15 clubs.

Seven

America's Argentine international striker, Gareca tops the scorers table with eight goals followed by Aravena (Chilean) and Zarate (Argentine) on seven.

Curious . . . One Sunday's matches were brought forward to avoid a clash with TV screening of European Championship group games in June.

from COLIN JOSE

Lato leads Rockets in Canada

ON JULY 6, 1975, Grzegorz Lato scored three goals as Poland crushed Canada 8-1 in Montreal. Thirteen years later the wheel has almost turned full cycle as Lato finds himself coaching the North York Rockets of the Canadian Soccer League a team containing three members of Canada's national team.

One of the greatest strikers in Polish soccer history, Lato took over the Rockets this season and currently the team is unbeaten after 7 games and sitting atop the Eastern Division of the league. It's all a far cry from last season for the north Toronto club who finished with the poorest record in the CSL with just one win in 20 games.

Under Lato and new general manager Fausto DiBerardino wholesale changes have taken place in North York and although this is the CSL the Rockets as you might expect have become a club with a definite Polish flavour.

Lato's assistant coach for example is Tadeusz Polak, another former Polish international and a long time resident of Toronto, while in goal is Zygmunt Kalinowski, who played four times for Poland in 1973 and 1974.

Another Pole in the line up is midfielder Miroslaw Piekos, while defender Josef Majcher was born in Poland. Before the season started there were reports that North York had signed Zbigniew Boniek on loan from Roma, reports that might be one year premature.

Even so under league rules the Rockets are limited to just three imports and when Canada played Poland in Toronto on July 15 three of Lato's players, Peter Sarantopoulos, Tony Pignatiello and John Fitgerald were in the Canadian squad playing against his homeland.

This season the Canadian Soccer League consists of nine teams, up one from last year. The newcomers are the Montreal Supra, who join the Rockets, Toronto Blizzard, Hamilton Steelers and the renamed Ottawa Intrepid in the Eastern Division. The Western Division remains the same with the Vancouver 86ers once again the team to berat, while last year's champions Calgary Kickers are not as strong. The Winnipeg Fury and the Edmonton Brickmen seem unlikely to challenge for top spot.

While the CSL season is just underway out on the west coast of the United States the Western Soccer Alliance season is two third complete. Last year's champions the San Diego Nomads currently lead the league by three points over the Seattle Storm, followed by the Los Angeles Heat, San Jose Earthquakes, California Kickers and F.C. Portland. Among the leading goalscorers here is Justin Fashanu who is playing for the Los Angeles Heat.

In the new American Soccer League playing its first season the New Jersey Eagles lead the Northern Division of the ten team league followed by the Maryland Bays, Washington Stars, Albany Capitals and Boston Bolts.

In the Southern Division it's the familiar name of the Fort Lauderdale Strikers who top the league with the Orlando Lions well behind in second place. Then come the Washington Diplomats, Tampa Bay Rowdies and Miami Sharks. The ASL season concludes at the end of August.

GRZEGORZ LATO . . . action man.

AMERICA HAVE BES

AMERICA of Mexico City finished with the best 24-7-7 record, scoring 86 goals against 39, in the Mexican first division which has 20 clubs playing each other but divided into four sections from which the top two go into quarterfinals.

Prominence

America are coached by Brazilian Jorge Vieira who took over from Argentina's Cayetano Rodriguez soon after the start of the season and has brought the team back to prominence helped by two compatriots, midfielder Carlos Antonio Dos Santos and striker Luis Alberto Alves and an attacking style.

Mexican international Luis Flores of Universidad Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM) meanwhile finished as top scorer with 24 goals.

The other quarterfinal qualifiers were defending champions Guadalajara and UNAM from group 1, Universidad de Guadalajara and Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara from group 2, Pueba from group 3 and Morelia and Toluca de Guadalajara from group 2, Pueba from group 3 and Morelia and Toluca from group 4.

But the champions fell at the two-legged (home and away) quar-

WORLD CH HUMILIA

ARGENTINA'S 4-1 defeat by hosts Australia in the Bicentennial Gold Cup in Sydney was shattering news for fans, officials and players back home in Buenos Aires.

The world champions have probably never suffered such a humiliating blow to morale.

They were without Diego Maradona (resting), Jorge Burruchaga (injured), Paulo Canniggia (transferred) and Jorge Valdano (retired) — but manager Carlos Bilardo still fielded a basically talented side.

"It's incredible — I'm staggered," said AFA president Julio Grondona after the defeat which condemned Argentina to a third-place play-off against Saudi Arabia.

Grondona did at least defend the decision to take part in the tournament, saying: "It is a blow to our pride but the only way our players can learn is to play in as many and varied tournaments as possible.

"This is part of the necessary preparation for the next World Cup finals in Italy. Remember, we do not compete in the qualifying rounds — so we have to take every opportunity we can of competitive play."

Bilardo had flown to Australia almost as soon as he had returned home from West Germany. His view of the European championships was that European teams were now copying the style with which Argentina won the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

He said: "We must look for a new formula to defend our title in Italy and we have problems in replacing such players as Burruchaga, Valdano and others who will be too old in 1990. These are compounded by the fact that no sooner do I pick replacements to train with they are transferred to foreign clubs. Since I took over the national team almost six years ago 23 men have gone in this way and this makes team building very difficult."

Bilardo says West Germany were the first team to copy them, then the Soviet Union.

"There are teams who no longer play with flank defenders and they put more men into midfield. Even Denmark don't use the off-side trap any more, the same as Holland," Bilardo said.

Among leading clubs he mentioned Napoli and Real Madrid as having copied Argentina's style. Bilardo added that he is now working on defeating the tactics he himself created for 1986.

URUGUAY have named Washington Tabarez (under whom Peñarol won the Libertadores Cup last year and who currently coaches Deportivo Cali in Colombia) and Gregorio Perez to coach the national team for next year's South American Championship and World Cup qualifying games.

Tabarez will return to Uruguay at the end of the year when his contract with the Colombian club expires, but he will face a problem similar to Bilardo's in Argentina.

It is estimated that Uruguay has "exported" 777 players during the last 10 years and they are still being transferred abroad which makes national team selection and training difficult. For the moment a pre-selection of 28 players has been formed which includes seven players presently with foreign clubs.

T RECORD

terfinal stage leaving America, Morelia, Universidad de Guadalajara and UNAM to fight out the semi-finals at press time.

COSTA RICA: Herediano, under Spanish coach Antonio Moyano Reina, won the Costa Rican title for the 20th time when they drew 1-1 with Cartagines after beating them 2-1 in the first leg of the title playoff. Herediano had won all four rounds of the championship, but Cartagines won the five-team final round of the lengthy championship to force the playoffs.

Herediano is the club with most titles won ahead of Deportivo Saprissa with 16.

AMPS TED

Cruzeiro striker Careca (left) is brought down by Racing defender Olaran in the first leg of the Super Cup final in Argentina which Racing won 2-1.

FROM ERIC WEIL

BOLIVIA'S new national team coach is Jorge Habegger, an Argentine under whom Bolivar won the national title (corresponding to 1987) this year.

THE split in Brazilian soccer widened when on June 20 — last day for registering entries for this year's Libertadores Cup — the Brazilian FA entered Sport Recife and Guarani who had taken the top two places in last year's national championship played without the 16 strongest clubs who had played their own "Copa Union".

As mentioned previously in *World Soccer*, Flamengo (Rio) and Internacional (Porto Alegre), who had taken the top two places in the "Copa Union" claimed that they should play in the Libertadores Cup and took their case to court, refusing to meet Sport and Guarani in a play-off to decide the issue. The court case, with appeals and counter-appeals, had still not been finally resolved by June 20 when the FA entered Sport and Guarani.

Now Flamengo and Internacional, backed by the other clubs of the break-away "Copa Union" championship, have threatened not to release players for the national squad and FIFA has warned Brazil it can be suspended if clubs continue to go to court with cases involving soccer which is against FIFA rules.

ARGENTINA'S Racing Club of Avellaneda — a smoky industrial town next to Buenos Aires — won the first tournament for the Joao Havelange Super Cup for past Libertadores Cup winners in which all 13 previous winners took part.

The tournament was a success — although several of the teams taking part (i.e. Brazil's Santos) were currently not in the top flight of soccer — and it is intended to make this an annual event.

Racing Club were the first Argentine club to win the Intercontinental Cup — played annually between the Libertadores and European cup winners — when they beat Glasgow Celtic in 1967.

TRANSFERS . . . EDUARDO PEREYRA, 34-year-old goalkeeper of Libertadores Cup holders Peñarol (Uruguay) and captain of the last Uruguayan national team, has moved to Independiente (Argentina) on loan . . . **PITA** (Edvaldo Oliveirá Chaves), Brazilian international striker, transferred from Sao Paulo FC (Brazil) to Racing Club Strasburg (France) for a million dollars (according to club officials) . . . **RENATO PORTALUPPI**, Brazilian international winger, transferred from Flamengo (Brazil) to Roma (Italy) for $2,300,00m (according to Flamengo club official) . . . **NERY PUMPIDO**, Argentine international goalkeeper, transferred from River Plate (Argentina) to Betis (Spain) for $150,000 while the player gets $550,000 for a three-year contract. **CESAR MENOTTI, the coach under whom Argentina won the World Cup in 1978, has signed for River Plate.**

CARLOS BILARDO . . . philosophical.

AFRICAN NOTEBOOK FROM MARK GLEESON

AL AHL ON TITLE

HOLDERS Al Ahly of Egypt and Kenyan's Gor Mahia kept on course in their defence of their respective African club titles, winning through to the quarter-final stage.

Al Ahly, looking for their second consecutive African Champions' Cup triumph and their fifth continental title in as many years, showed surprisingly solid form away from home against Ugandan champions Nakivubo Sports Villa, before wrapping up the second round tie in the return leg in Cairo.

They have now qualified for the quarter-finals in September, where their toughest opposition should come from former winners Royal Armed Forces of Morocco and Ivorians Africa Sports, finalists in 1986.

Gor Mahia, on the other hand, looked shaky in the first leg of their second round African Cup-winners' Cup tie against BTM of Madagascar. But they overcame a poor home performance to win through in the end against the Indian Ocean island club, and also secure a quarter-final place.

There they face formidable opposition from compatriots AFC Leopards, Diamant Yaounde (Cameroon) and CA Bizerte of Tunisia, who crushed their second round rivals in stunning fashion.

Al Ahly, who usually put up poor showings away from home, surprised Villa in Kampala, winning the first leg 3-2 with goals from Ibrahim, Ayman Chawky and El Masry.

They extended the aggregate lead in the return in Cairo, with another goal from Chawky midway through the second half.

Villa kept up their hopes throughout and were rewarded when Moses netted with 20 minutes left. But that was the end for the east Africans as Rahee Yassin and Taher Abou Zeid got late goals to give Ahly a 6-3 aggregate triumph.

Royal Armed Forces expectedly had little problems with Mauritanian representatives ASC Police, who had never come this far before in continental competition. A 5-0 win at home, including two goals from World Cup star Laghrissi, in the first leg wrapped up the tie, but Police did get a once-in-a-lifetime 2-1 win in the return.

Africa Sports also made sure of their quarter-final place early on in the tie against Petro Atletico of Angola, winning the first leg 3-0 at home with goals from Nigerian international Rashidi Yekini and locals Ebo Menos and Pascal Kouassi N'Dri.

But the Angolans did display some fighting spirit in the return in Luanda, going up after 12 minutes. They could not further reduce the deficit until three minutes from time, and then Africa Sports got a quick consolation goal to keep their lead intact. Algerian club Entente Setif, who did poorly in their defence of their domestic title, beat Tunisian neighbours Etoile Sahel 3-2 on aggregate in their second round match, after losing the first leg 2-1.

The first leg in Sousse in the south of Tunisia saw Setif go 1-0 up early on through Rais, but goals from Brigui and Boukaddida on either side of the interval gave Sahel a precarious first leg lead. Second leg goals from Adjissa (7th min) and Banjaballah (37th min) changed that, however, and secured Setif's berth.

Last year's finalists Al Hilal of Sudan also remain in the competition, beating Kabwe Warriors 3-1 on aggregate, as do Gabon's FC 105 Libreville, who had a narrow win over minnows Inter FC of Burundi.

The upset of the round came in the tie between Nigerians Iwuanyanwu Nationale and Camerounian heavyweights Tonnerre Yaounde. Nationale beat the star-studded Tonnerre 4-3 on aggregate in an exciting tie, which saw the west Africans win the first leg in Dwerri, eastern Nigeria, 2-0 with goals from Paul Uzokwe and Mike Obi.

Tonnerre won the return 3-2 therefore going out on aggregate, but not before controversy over a witchdoctor's doll planted in the goalmouth by the Nigerians to "help" them on to victory.

There was an uglier incident in the tie between Matchedje of Mozambique and Sunrise SC of Mauritius in Maputo's second leg. The Sunrise players attacked Kenyan referee Joash Mwanga Ambani after he awarded the hosts a penalty midway through the second period, with Matchedje already safely up on aggregate. One player kicked the ref, who was then rescued by armed riot police. Surprisingly, only one Sunrise player was cautioned. Police had to enter the pitch again later when Sunrise disputed an offside decision and threatened to attack Ambani again.

Domestic

Matchedje, who have been embroiled in a domestic dispute in the Mozambican First Division that almost saw them withdrawn from the Champions' Cup by their local footballing authorities, went on to win 5-1 and become the first club from the southern African country to reach the quarter-finals of the cup.

Gor Mahia made life a little uncomfortable for themselves in their first leg home tie against Madagascan teachers club BTM, winning only 2-1. But BTM failed to take advantage in the return in Tamako and John Odembo got a last minute goal to give Gor a 3-1 aggregate win.

AFC Leopards, the other Kenyans in the competition, were impressive in beating FC Kalamu of Zaire 4-1 at home in a bad tempered first leg game and then taking the match 4-3 on aggregate.

Kalamu punched the Zambian referee, assaulted two policemen and smashed radio and TV equipment after their forward Menga Lutumba was sent off in the dying minutes of the first leg game. There was also drama at the end of the game as the two opposing sides got stuck into each other, but the second leg proved calm, in spite of Kenyan fears.

Diamant Yaounde, with French bound Andre Kana Biwick at the helm beat Senegal's Jeanne d'Arc 2-1 both home and away to secure their quarter-final spot, while CA Bizerte crushed Horsed of Somalia 9-0 on aggregate, winning 2-0 away and 7-0 at home. Surprise qualifiers to make up the rest of the quarter-final line-up are minnows Wallidan of Gambia, Inter Club of Congo and Nigerians Ranchers Bees.

But probably the most hearwarming of all are Angolans Ferroviario de Huila who upended fancied Power Dynamos of Zambia. Ferroviario come from Huambo, the war-ravaged city in the centre of Angola which has seen some of the heaviest fighting between Angolan troops and South African invaders.

In spite of all the odds against them, Ferroviario did remarkably well away in the first leg, losing only 1-0, and then quickly equalised in the return leg before going on to win on penalties.

GUINEA, up against highly-rated Tunisia in World Cup qualifiers, sent out a strong warning signal by retaining the Amil Car Cabral Cup in nearby Guinea-Bissau.

The Guineans beat Mali 5-3 on penalties in the final after a goalless draw in a repeat of last year's final. Senegal, who have won the tournament a record five times, ended third with a 2-1 win over Sierra Leone.

Group A: Senegal 4, Gambia 0; Guinea Bissau 0, Sierre Leone 0; Senegal 1, Guinea Bissau 1; Sierre Leone 3, Gambia 1; Senegal 2, Sierre Leone 2; Guinea Bissau 3, Gambia 1.

Group B: Guinea 1, Mauritania 1; Mali 3, Cape Verde 1; Guinea 1, Mali 0; Cape Verde 3, Mauritania 2; Guinea 1, Cape Verde 1; Mali 2, Mauritania 2.

Semi-finals: Guinea 3, Sierre Leone 0; Mali 1, Senegal 1 (aet. Mali won 5-3 pens).

Third place play-off: Senegal 2, Sierre Leone 1.

Final: Guinea 0, Mali 0 (aet. Guinea won 5-3 pens).

AFRICA's qualifying campaign for the World Cup has already started, but this month sees the first round completed.

With Libya, Zambia and Zimbabwe already having qualified from the initial phase of competition, five other winners have to be found to join the continent's eight leading footballing nations in the 16-nation second round.

The countries are divided into four groups of four each and will, for the first time, play on a round-robin basis. The four group winners will then revert back to the two-legged knockout format for the final elimination phase, from which two representatives will be found to represent the continent in Italy in 1990.

IT HAS been barely six months since Cameroon beat Nigeria to win the 16th African National Cup title in Morocco.

Now, the qualification for the 17th edition of the tournament, to be hosted by Algeria in 1990, is getting off the ground.

The draw for the preliminary and first round of the competition has been made and the first matches will start at the end of September.

There are nine preliminary round ties and 12 first round pairings, all played over two legs. The nine nations going through to the first round will be known by mid-October. The first round proper is scheduled for April next year and the qualifiers for the final six in July. The six will join hosts Algeria and holders Cameroon in the two-week finals in March, 1990.

Preliminary round: Libya v Mauritania; Liberia v Mali; Gabon v Burkina Faso; Guinea v Gambia; Angola v Equatorial Guinea; Mauritius v Seychelles; Ethiopia v Uganda; Tanzania v Swaziland; Mozambique v Madagascar. **First round:** Libya or Mauritania v Tunisia; Liberia or Mali v Morocco; Gabon or Burkina Faso v Ghana; Guinea or Gambia v Nigeria; Angola or Equatorial Guinea v Cote d'Ivoire; Mauritius or Seychelles v Zimbabwe; Ethiopia or Uganda v Egypt; Tanzania or Swaziland v Malawi; Mozambique or Madagascar v Zambia; Sudan v Kenya; Togo v Senegal; Zaire v Sierre Leone.

ALGERIA: Moulandia Oran are within two points of wrappin up the Algerian championship.

With two games left, they have a healthy three point lead over JE Tizi Ouzou, the only club who can theoretically still catch them.

In the cup, Mouloudia have reached the semi-finals, along with Belcourt, Union and holders El Harrach.

BURKINA FASO: Libya may have given the Burkinabe a lesson in their World Cup qualifying tie, but Burkina Faso did impress with a 3-0 win over Ghana in a warm-up friendly on May 24.

Y STAY COURSE

It was probably the arid country's best ever international win.

CAMEROON: Union Douala are on course to tip defending champions Tonnerre Yaounde to the league title.

There is a three point gap between the two at the head of the First Division table. Holders Diamant Yaounde were knocked out of the cup by Panthere Banganote, who join Tonnerre, Foumban Federal and Racing Rafoussan in the semi-finals.

IVORY COAST: Africa Sports predictably head up the league table with a two point gap between them and second placed ASEC Abidjan.

EGYPT: A 2-1 away win at bottom placed Helouan has secured Al Ahly yet another title win.

With one match left they have a three point lead over long time rivals Zamalek, who are second.

GABON: US Mbile Nzambi are the newly crowned champions but it is not known whether they will be allowed to represent Gabon in the 1989 African Champions Cup after the violent scenes in their African Cup Winners' Cup first round tie with Inter Club of Congo earlier this year.

If not, second placed AS Sogare should take their place.

GHANA: Cornerstone have begun their defence of the West African Football Union cup with a 2-0 first round, first leg win over Mightly Barolle of Liberia in Kumasi. John Ackon scored both goals for the holders.

KENYA: KTM have taken the early lead in the championship from Kenya Breweries and Motcom. KTM have 27 points from 17 games, seven more than the other two although Breweries have played 14 games and Motcom 15.

MALI: Djoliba Bamako upset the odds to take the lead after the first round of the four-team final phase in the league championship. they beat Sigui Kayes 1-0, while Bamako rivals, Stade Malien and Real Bamako drew their match 1-1.

MORROCCO: Raja Casabalanca have a four point lead in the championship from a pack of three clubs. Reigning champions Royal Armed Forces lie a distant 10 points off, but have several matches in hand because of their participation in the African Champions Cup.

SOUTH AFRICA: Wits University have a one point lead at the head of the First Division, but face some stiff opposition from champions Jomo Cosmos and up kings Mamelodi Sundowns as the championship enters the second round of fixtures.

TANZANIA: Maji Maji and Coastal Union share the lead in the First Division after seven matches each. Champions Young Africans are third from bottom.

TUNISIA: Club Olympique Transports have won the Tunisian Cup and the right to play in next year's African Cup Winners' Cup, with a 5-4 penalty shootout win over Club Africain in the final. The two teams were tied at 1-1 after extra time. Transports lost out on doing the 'double', ending second in the league race to Esperance. Both clubs had 81 points from their 26 matches, but Esperance had a far superior goal difference.

ZIMBABWE: Zimbabwe Saints lead after 12 rounds, with a two point gap between them and second placed Dynamos. Defending champs Black Rhinos are third a further two points behind.

Meanwhile, the All-Stars match, featuring the likes of Pele, Kevin Keegan, George Best, Paulo Rossi and Michel Platini, in a World XV against a Zimbabwean select team has been cancelled on the orders of FIFA.

The match, intended to raise money to fight AIDS, was to be played in Harare on July 24, but FIFA called it off because of an alleged abuse of charity matches.

A more probable cause was the controversy caused by the inclusion of South African star Jomo Sono (ex New York Cosmos) in Pele's team, in direct contravention of the anti-apartheid sports blacklist.

AFRICAN CHAMPIONS' CUP

Second Round first leg

Royal Armed Forces (Morocco) 5 Laghrissi (2), Khairi, Chicha, Fadili; ASC Police (Mauritania) 0.

Etiole du Sahel (Tunisia) 2 Brigui, Boukaddida; Entente Setif (Algeria) 1 Rais.

FC 105 (Gabon) 2; Inter FC (Burundi) 1.

Iwuanyanwu Nationale (Nigeria) 2 Uzokwe, Obi; Tonnerre Yaounde (Cameroon) 0.

Africa Sports (Ivory Coast) 3 Yekini, Menos, N'Dri; Petro Atletico (Angola) 0.

Nakivubo Sports Villa (Uganda) 2 Yvubya, Sedki og; Al Ahly (Egypt) 3 Ibrahim, Chawka, El Masry.

Sunrise SC (Mauritius) 2 Lochan, Changou; Matchedje (Mozambique) 0.

Kabwe Warriors (Zambia) 0; Al Hilal (Sudan) 0.

Second Round second leg

ASC Police 2 Dieng, Traore; Royal Armed Forces 1 Leghereb. — **Royal Armed Forces 6-2 on agg.**

Entente Setif 2 Adjissa, Bendjaballah; Etiole du Sahel 0. — **Entente Setif 3-2 on agg.**

Inter FC 1 Ali; FC 105 1 Ondeno. — **FC 105 3-2 on agg.**

Tonnerre Yaounde 3 Weah (2), Abbrey; Iwuanyanwu Nationale 2 Ekpo, Uzokwe. — **Iwuanyanwu Nationale 4-3 on agg.**

Petro Atletico 2, Africa Sports 1. — **Africa Sports 4-2 on agg.**

Al Ahly 3 Chawka, Yassin, Abou Zeid; Nakivubo Sports Villa 1 Moses. — **Al Ahly 6-3 on agg.**

Matchedje 5 Nico, Adelino, Zacarias, Faela, Nana; Sunrise SC 1 Jeronimo og. — **Matchedje 5-3 on agg.**

Al Hilal 3; Kabwe Warriors 1. — **Al Hilal 3-1 on agg.**

AFRICAN CUP WINNERS' CUP

Second Round first leg

Real Republicans (Sierre Leone) 0; Wallisan (The Gambia) 0.

Horsed (Somalia) 0; CA Bizerte (Tunisia) 2 Charbin, Satek.

Power Dynamos (Zambia) 1 Muma; Ferroviario de Huila (Angola) 0.

Gor Mahia (Kenya, holders) 2 Odembo, M Otieno; BTM (Madagascar) 1 Claudin.

AFC Leopards (Kenya) 4 Shim, Omboko (2), Mulamba; FC Kalamu (Zaire) 1 Lutumba.

Jeanne d'Arc (Senegal) 1 Ondoua og; Diamant Yaounde (Cameroon) 2 Kana Biyick, Mango.

Ranchers Bees (Nigeria) 1 Jeje; ASFA (Guinea) 0.

Inter Club (Congo) 1 Malonga; ASC Bouake (Iv. Coast) 0.

Second Round second leg

Wallidan 1 Tennis; Real Republicans 0. — **Wallidan 1-0 on agg.**

CA Bizerte 7 Gharbi (2), Trabelsi (2), Souissi, Zouaoui, Khamis og; Horsed 0. — **CA Bizerte 9-0 on agg.**

Ferroviario de Huila 1 Dinho; Power Dynamos 0 aet. — **1-1 on agg. Ferrociario de Huila 4-2 on pens.**

BTM 0; Gor Mahia 1 Odembo. — **Gor Mahia 3-1 on agg.**

FC Kalamu 2 Ebaw, Senge; AFC Leopards 0. — **AFC Leopards 4-3 on agg.**

Diamant Yaounde 2 Kana Biyick, Nkomo; Jeanne d'Arc 1 Bokande. — **Diamant Yaounde 4-2 on agg.**

ASFA 1 Kader; Ranchers Bees 1 Sadi. — **Ranchers Bees 2-1 on agg.**

ASC Bouake 1 Kanon; Inter Club 1 Mabiala. — **Inter Club 2-1 on agg.**

Uhlsport
THE PROFESSIONAL CHOICE

GLOVES

UHL 086	SB,B,Y,S,M,L	£9.95	UHL 092	Y,S,M,L	£28.95
UHL 087	B,Y,S,M,L	£11.75	UHL 015	Y,S,M,L	£29.95
UHL 099	SB,B,Y,S,M,L	£13.95	UHL 089	Y,S,M,L	£29.95
UHL 018	Y,S,M,L	£17.45	UHL 025	Y,S,M,L	£30.50
UHL 082	Y,S,M,L	£18.95	UHL 083	S,M,L	£30.95
UHL 034	Y,S,M,L	£20.95	UHL 024	S,M,L	£30.95
UHL 040	Y,S,M,L	£23.95	UHL 021	S,M,L	£31.95
UHL 019	Y,S,M,L	£26.45	UHL 093	S,M,L	£39.95
UHL 096	Y,S,M,L	£27.95	UHL 013	S,M,L	£39.95

Sizes available as shown, SB = SMALL BOYS, B = BOYS, Y = YOUTHS, S = SMALL MENS, M = MENS, L = LARGE MENS.

GLOVE BAGS

UHL 009	White/Black PVC	£5.50
UHL 010	Black/Blue Nylon	£5.95

JERSEYS

UHL 590 Green or Silver	34/36", 38/40", 42/44"	£20.95
UHL 535 Green or Silver or Sky	32", 34/36", 38/40", 42"	£24.95
UHL 543 Silver or Yellow	34/36", 38/40", 42/44", 46"	£25.45
UHL 544 Green or Silver or Sky	38/40", 42/44", 46"	£28.95
UHL 585 Green or Silver or Orange	36/38", 40/42", 44"	£39.95

Please allow 21 days for delivery.

Please send 20p stamp (overseas 2 International Reply Coupons) for 88/89 season's Sukan catalogue, showing fuller details of the the above, and rest of our goalkeeper's range, or catalogue sent FREE with first order.
All prices including post/packing for UK and Europe, outside Europe please add £3.00 per jersey and £2.00 per pair of gloves/glove bag. For overseas please note, especially in Eire, payment is required in sterling, not local currency. Cheques, Postal Orders, Access or Visa number with order to:

Sukan Sports
2 Piggotts Road, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire RG4 8EN
Telephone: Reading (0734) 481586.

WORLD SOCCER'S GLOBAL NEWS SERVICE CONDUCTED BY

OBITUARY. — Henry 'Tippen' Johansen, Norway's legendary pre-war goalkeeper, died at 83. Johansen played 48 times for Norway, making his debut against Poland in Fredrikstad in 1926 and playing his last game for his country against England in Newcastle in 1938. Most of his club football was played for Valerengen and he was a member of the Norwegian team which provided one of the greatest upsets of the inter-war years, beating Germany at the Berlin Olympics of 1936.

MONDAY, JUNE 6

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Italian star Gianluca Vialli, arriving in West Germany for the European finals, takes time out in Dusseldorf to sign a £1.3million boots deal ... West German team chief Franz Beckenbauer says Rudi Voller will definitely be in the starting line-up for the opening match. Chief critic Paul Breitner, however, says in a newspaper column: "We were better without Voller in the second half against Yugoslavia. That proves there is no point persevering with him."

BELGIUM: Standard Liege sell veteran World Cup defender Michel Renquin to Sion of Switzerland.

ENGLAND: Graham Kelly, secretary of the Football League, is appointed to succeed Ted Croker next February as chief executive of the Football Association.

ITALY: Inter confirm their £2.5million purchase of Algerian forward Rabah Madjer from FC Porto. Madjer will be paid £300,000-a-year ... Avellino agree to sell Nikos Anastopulos back to Olympiakos of Piraeus.

MOZAMBIQUE: Riot police move in to save Kenyan referee Joash Mwanga Ambani after he awards a controversial penalty to home team Matchedje of Maputo in an African Champions' Club Cup tie against Sunrise of Mauritius. The Mauritius players mob Ambani again later after he halts one of their own moves with an offside decision. Matchedje win 5-1 (5-3 on aggregate) to become the first Mozambique club to enter the quarterfinals.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7

HUNGARY: The federation delay confirmation of the final table in the championship pending investigation into match-fixing allegations.

SPAIN: Bernd Schuster formally completes his £3million transfer from Barcelona to arch-rivals Real Madrid ... the Spanish tax service issue a claim for £65,000 owed by former Atletico Madrid coach Cesar Menotti.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Denmark boss Sepp Piontek misses afternoon training — to attend a reception given by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl ... Frank Arnesen arrives at the Danish hotel, on crutches, as a guest of the DBU ... the Opel car company, who are one of the sponsors, name Uwe Seeler, Fritz Walter, Jurgen Grabowski, Paul Breitner and Max Merkel on a jury to select the best player at the championships for a special Opel prize of a trophy and a car ... Michael Laudrup denies he is about to quit Juventus but says that if he does he will go to a club outside Italy.

ENGLAND: The BBC and ITV hit stalemate in talks with the FA and the Football League on a new television contract.

PERU: Rubens Minelli follows the example of fellow Brazilian Tele Santana and rejects an offer to take over as national manager of Peru for the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: DFB president Hermann Neuberger says that ticket sales have been so good all eight finalist nations are guaranteed at least £1 million minimum income from the finals ... UEFA president Jacques Georges praises the German organisers — "minor problems are normal but when it comes to organisation then the people here know what they are talking about." ... UEFA general secretary Hans Bangerter says that the possibility of banning England from the finals because of hooliganism fears had never been considered ... UEFA accept the principal of the European finals being organised jointly by two countries though only the 'senior partner' could expect their team to be seeded direct to the event ... England collect a handful of minor injuries in beating VfR Heilbronn 4-0 in a last warm-up. The goals come from Waddle (two), McMahon and Hateley.

BELGIUM: Brugge beat Anderlecht 1-0 in the Supercup.

WEST GERMANY: Waldhof Mannheim stay in the first division after beating Darmstadt 5-4 on penalties after a goalless draw in a relegation/promotion play-off.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: West Germany and Italy draw 1-1 in the opening match in Dusseldorf. The match is transmitted live in 28 countries with delayed transmission in four more ... Denmark manager Sepp Piontek hints about a change of job, saying: "I am not unhappy but I would like to try something at some stage in my career. The high level of income tax in Denmark is one reason!"

ARGENTINA: River Plate sack coach Griguol as expected and appoint, as expected, Cesar Menotti.

BRAZIL: Legal chaos reigns as Sport Recife and Guarani decide to fight appeal against a court ruling upholding the CBF's right to 'deprive' them of their controversial national championship titles. At stake are two places in the lucrative South American club cup.

FRANCE: A court in Lyon decides that Michel Platini and a dozen other former colleagues at Saint-Etienne must, after all, stand trial on tax evasion and other matters relating to the £2million slush fund run at the club between 1979 and 1982.

PORTUGAL: Porto maintain their domination over Benfica, beating the European Cup finalists 1-0 in the semi-finals of the domestic cup. In the other semi-final Vitoria Guimaraes beat Portimonense 2-1 after extra time.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Spain beat Denmark 3-2 in the rain in Hannover, watched by 8.47million West Germans on television, some 27 per cent of the audience ... police in Stuttgart break up a mob in the city centre after scuffling and bottle-throwing by English and Irish fans. There are 44 arrests, mainly for criminal damage and physical attacks though trouble includes damage in three restaurants and the setting alight of a car. Four of the arrested are serving with the BAOR and are released into the custody of military police.

FRANCE: Metz beat Sochaux 5-4 on penalties after the French cup final finishes all-square at 1-1 at the end of extra time.

SPAIN: Spain midfielder Michel agrees a new deal with Real Madrid which ties him to the club until 1995 with a one-year extension option.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Holland lose 1-0 in Cologne to the Soviet Union, England lose 1-0 in Stuttgart to the Irish Republic ... after the Stuttgart match there is more hooliganism. There are 45 arrests at the match (44 English, one Luxembourg) and in the city 30 youths are arrested after a violent rampage through the main railway station and a shopping precinct. Police with dogs and riot gear cordon off the centre of the city for 30 minutes while the situation is brought under control. Police spokesman Herbert Gaissmaier says: "Gangs of between five and 20 fans were responsible for most of the trouble. Alcohol played a big part in the problem. Here in Germany we have our own football hooligan problem but these British fans take the biscuit." Another spokesman, Fritz Bacholz, says: "German youngsters provoked the trouble, shouting and screaming at the English fans." British Sports Minister Colin Moynihan says: "Drastic action is needed to remove the cancer of hooliganism from football."

FRANCE: France beat England 4-2 after extra time in the final of the Toulon youth tournament ... President Francois Mitterand confirms his support for France's bid to stage the 1998 World Cup.

HUNGARY: Newly-recrowned champions Honved just miss the double when they lose 3-2 to Bekescsaba in the cup final.

POLAND: The FA decide to reduce the size of the first division from the current 16 clubs to 14 for the start of the 1989-90 season.

YUGOSLAVIA: Red Star win the league title on the last day of the season after a controversial late equaliser in their 2-2 away draw with Sutjeska. There is controversy, too, when Pristina escape relegation by scoring three goals in the last five minutes to win 3-2 away to Celik.

MONDAY, JUNE 13

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher orders an urgent report on the violent scenes in Stuttgart.

FRANCE: Toulouse officials confirm they have obtained all necessary authorisations to sign Soviet sweeper Vagiz Khidiatulin after the European finals.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: West Germany beat Denmark 2-0 in Gelsenkirchen and Italy beat Spain 1-0 in Frankfurt ... in Dusseldorf police use tear gas, flares, riot gear and dogs to break up a pitched battle between 300 English and German hooligans in the centre of the old city and at the railway station. Windows are smashed, vehicles damaged and bricks and bottles thrown. More than 50 arrests are made ... in Cologne more than 600 English, German, Dutch and Irish fans are involved in fighting; there are 22 arrests.

SPAIN: Victor Esparrago, former Uruguayan World Cup forward, is appointed new coach to Valencia.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: England are eliminated by the combination of a 3-1 defeat by Holland in Dusseldorf, and a 1-1 draw between the Soviet Union and Irish Republic in Hannover ... after the Hannover match the Soviet delegation decide to explore asking special permission to call in a third goalkeeper in place of Dasayev, injured in a collision with Galvin ... Denmark

KEIR RADNEDGE

RCELONA L HUGHES

arrange two friendly internationals with England — at Wembley on September 14 and in Copenhagen on June 7, 1989, as part of the DBU's centenary celebrations ... in Dusseldorf the England-Holland game is followed by a second night of violence in the city centre. There are 200 arrests. About 150 German trouble-makers, including members of the notorious Gelsenkirchen and Essen neo-nazi gangs, are also rounded up by police ... Moynihan says that Mrs Thatcher is "very angry and ashamed" by the violence.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Herbert Schnoor, the Interior Minister of Nordrhein-westfalia, says: "It is clear that Tuesday night's trouble was started not by the English but by the German hooligans who wanted to prove who the real heroes are." ... more trouble erupts in Frankfurt between German youths and English fans without accommodation arriving late at night in the city centre ... at Downing Street, British government Ministers agree a five-point plan to combat hooliganism. It involves considering whether England should compete at international level, travel restrictions, match admission restrictions, tougher licensing laws and stepping up police surveillance ... Greek club Olympiakos claim to have set up the transfer of Soviet midfield star Alexander Zavarov.

SPAIN: Betis sign Argentine World Cup-winning goalkeeper Nery Pumpido.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA confirm reports that Lesotho have pulled out of the World Cup qualifiers.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Italy and West German qualify for the semi-finals — with respective 2-0 victories in Cologne and Munich over Denmark and Spain ... in Frankfurt England manager Bobby Robson angrily denies allegations of mutiny within the ranks of his squad ... the Soviets decide not to replace Dasayev because that would rule him out of the entire rest of the tournament.

BOLIVIA: The federation's offer of the job of national manager is rejected by veteran Argentine coach, Juan Carlos Lorenzo.

BRAZIL: Right wing star Muller agrees to sign for Italy's Torino.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Holland and the Soviet Union also qualify for the semi-finals — Holland beating the Irish Republic with a controversial late goal from Kieft in Gelsenkirchen, while the Soviets defeat England more easily than the 3-1 scoreline suggests ... the England match is followed by more drunken brawling, and 200 arrests, in the centre of Frankfurt. Among the arrested are 14 British soldiers, bringing the known service total during the finals to 19. Total arrests so far at the championships are put by police at 823 of which 381 are English.

SPAIN: Veterans Camacho, Victor and Gordillo all retire from the national team in the wake of Spain's European finals flop.

WEST GERMANY: Eintracht Frankfurt's Hungarian star, Lajos Detari, denies reports that he has signed for Juventus.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Ireland's Taoiseach, Charles Haughey, leads the reception committee welcoming the Irish squad back to Dublin. An estimated 250,000 fans jam O'Connell Street in tribute to Jack Charlton and Co.

ITALY: Lazio and Atalanta secure promotion on the last day of the second division programme.

POLAND: Gornik seal their four successive championship, finishing 11 points clear of second-placed GKS Katowice.

PORTUGAL: FC Porto complete the double when they beat Vitoria Guimaraes 1-0 in the cup final with an 83rd-minute goal from midfielder Jaime Magalhaes.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Soviet manager Valeri Lobanovsky prepares for the semi-final against Italy by saying: "This is the semi-final we expected. The Italians say they are pleased to be playing us, too, but I wonder if they mean it. People talk about them only preparing for the 1990 World Cup but I do not understand that. You always play your best team at an event such as this."

HUNGARY: The federation, having found no match-fixing proof, confirm the last round league table and thus Honved as champions.

ITALY: First hints emerge that Internazionale are worried big-money Algerian, Rabah Madjer, may be carrying a serious muscle injury.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Holland hit back to beat West Germany 2-1 in a thrilling semi-final in Hamburg. The match is watched by a domestic TV audience of 55 per cent, or 20.73million people. Around 300 German and Dutch fans are involved in fighting after the match in a red-light district. There are 47 arrests and 14 policemen are injured ... championship organisers say 96 per cent of all tickets have been sold. Projected spectator total for the finals is 930,000 — made up of 854,000 tickets sold and another 76,000 allowed for VIPs, media, security zone and unsold obstructed views.

ITALY: Bari sell Gordon Cowans home to Aston Villa for £825,000 and Paul Rideout home to Southampton for £350,000.

SPAIN: Federation president Roca sacks Ramon Mendoza, president of Real Madrid, from the FEF's executive. Mendoza upset fellow directors and several players and other staff with critical comments while he was acting as head of Spain's European championship delegation in West Germany.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: The Soviet Union beat Italy 2-0 in their semi-final in Stuttgart ... Prime Minister Thatcher warns the English football authorities that if they do not come up with a nationwide membership scheme of their own at a Downing Street 'hooligan summit' on July 6, then the government will enforce its own version.

SPAIN: Barcelona complete the formalities to sell Mark Hughes, on loan this past season at Bayern Munich, back to Manchester United for £1.5million.

WORLD SOCCER DIARY

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: West German-born Gerhard Aigner is appointed to succeed Hans Bangerter as UEFA secretary-general when Bangerter retires at the end of the year ... Bangerter, commenting on England's hooligan problem, says: "The British authorities must take away their passports. As long as this measure is not taken there is little chance for the readmission of English clubs to European competitions. That is my personal opinion but I imagine it is shared by most of the members of the UEFA executive committee." ... Holland's squad prepare for the Final by relaxing at a Whitney Houston concert in Munich.

ITALY: Alessandro Altobelli, Italy's reserve de luxe, decides to retire from international football.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: At the UEFA congress in Munich, English FA chief Bert Millichip is elected to the UEFA executive thanks to a successful move by British and Scandinavian delegates widening membership from 10 to 11. Re-elected are Vaclav Jira (Czechoslovakia), Antonio Da Silva Resende (Portugal) and Freddy Rumo (Switzerland). Newly-elected, along with Millichip, are Egidius Braun (West Germany) and Antonio Matarrese (Italy). Lennart Johansson (Sweden) replaces Lauri Poyhonen (Finland). UEFA's delegates on FIFA's executive committee will be Finland's Poul Hyldgaard (re-elected) and Belgium's Michel D'Hooghe (replacing Necdet Cobanli of Turkey, who did not wish to stand again) ... San Marino, having completed a two-year trial, is formally inducted as the 35th member state of UEFA ... Israel are formally accepted into Europe for the purposes of the qualifying rounds of the World Youth Cup.

ITALY: Inter, casting around for a replacement star if the Madjer deal falls through, inquire about Fiorentina's Argentine, Ramon Diaz, and Benfica's Rui Aguas.

SPAIN: A government discussion paper proposes setting up specific laws for sport — one proposal would allow football clubs to become limited companies.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Holland become new European champions, beating the Soviet Union 2-0 in Munich's Olympic stadium with goals from Gullit and Van Basten. For the Soviets, Belanov sees a penalty

● Continued overleaf

WORLD SOCCER'S GLOBAL NEWS SERVICE

● continued from previous page

saved by Van Breukelen. The Final goes out live on TV to 53 countries. It is watched in Holland by an estimated 8.6 million, two-thirds of the population (beating the 8.1 million who watched the 1978 World Cup Final). After the match Soviet manager Lobanovsky criticises UEFA and the organisers because the Soviets had one day less rest between semi-finals and final than Holland, and also because of the suspension of key defender Oleg Kuznetsov for accumulation of two yellow cards — one in the qualifying tournament, one in the semi-final . . . Van Basten, in addition to being five-goal top scorer at the finals, is voted top player ahead of Gullit and Rijkaard . . . about 80 arrests (including 67 Dutch fans and nine West Germans) are made before, during and after the Final, bringing the total for the tournament to 1,250.

FRANCE: Lyon sign Brazilian right winger Jose Sinval from Servette of Geneva.

GUATEMALA: Carlos Carrera, secretary of CONCACAF, claims that attempts were made to bribe the confederation's president, Joaquin Soria Terrazas, to reverse the suspensions inflicted on the Mexican federation, its top officials and three players, for falsifying age documents at the World Youth Cup qualifying competition earlier this year.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

ARGENTINA: Julio Grondona, Argentine FA president who is South America's representative on FIFA's executive, says he is backing Brazil in the World Cup 1994 'challenge' . . . San Lorenzo lose 1-0 to Racing but win 2-1 on aggregate in their play-off for Argentina's second place behind Newell's Old Boys in this year's South American Club Cup. Four players are sent off: Acuna, Luduena and Fernandez of Racing as well as goalkeeper Chilavert of San Lorenzo.

HOLLAND: Up to one million dancing, singing fans turn out to welcome Holland's European champions home to Amsterdam.

SOUTH KOREA: In the semi-finals of the President's Cup, in Seoul, South Korea lose 4-3 on penalties to a Czechoslovak League XI after a goalless draw, and the Soviet Olympic team beat Nigeria 1-0.

SPAIN: Barcelona star Gary Lineker is booked into hospital in England for tests for suspected hepatitis . . . a shock, too, for Real Madrid as midfielder Michel is banned for nine matches by UEFA, and Hugo Sanchez for three, for harassing Swiss referee Bruno Galler at the end of Madrid's Champions' Cup semi-final second leg against PSV Eindhoven in Holland. Madrid are also fined £30,000.

WEST GERMANY: Bayer Leverkusen are fined £18,000 by UEFA because of chaotic scenes when fans invaded the pitch at the end of their UEFA Cup Final second leg against Espanol.

MONDAY, JUNE 27

ENGLAND: A four-team tournament being planned at Wembley, and involving Tottenham, Arsenal, Milan and Bayern Munich, is banned by the FA for fear of hooligan trouble — and then reinstated.

RUMANIA: Chaos at the Rumanian cup final in the August 23 stadium in Bucharest. Steaua and Dinamo are level at 1-1 in the 87th minute when referee Dan Petrescu disallows what would would have been a Steaua winner. Steaua refuse to play on, Dinamo players seize the trophy and claim victory by a walkover and angry fans spill over, scuffling on the pitch. The match is abandoned.

SPAIN: Real Madrid appeal against the UEFA bans on Michel and Hugo Sanchez.

SWITZERLAND: Champions Neuchatel Xamax arrange to borrow Argentine World Cup forward Claudio Borghi from Milan for one year.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

NIGERIA: Wimbledon centre-forward star John Fashanu is reported as saying, on a visit to Lagos, that he would like to play for the Nigerian national team.

PERU: Bora Milutinovic, manager of Mexico at the last World Cup finals, takes over as boss of Peru. In between, he was briefly with Udinese in Italy.

RUMANIA: The national sports council overrule cup final referee Petrescu. The council declares that the Steaua goal was valid after all and that Steaua were 2-1 winners — and thus complete the league-and-cup double. Petrescu and his two linesmen are suspended indefinitely for "confusing the spectators who showed their discontent with the quality of the refereeing and the cancellation of a perfectly valid goal."

SPAIN: Cadiz appoint as trainer Fernando Morena, sacked after just three months as boss by Penarol of Uruguay.

YUGOSLAVIA: Pristina and Celik are both penalised six points by the federation for fixing their last-round match in which Celik scored three goals in the last five minutes to beat Pristina 3-2 and escape relegation. If the decision stands — both clubs immediately appeal — then Celik will be relegated after all.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

ACTION: Uruguayan rivals Nacional and Wanderers draw 0-0 in the South American Club Cup.

BELGIUM: Antwerp sign Koln midfielder Ralf Geilenkirchen for £200,000. He links up again with his old Koln coach, Georg Kessler.

SOUTH KOREA: A Czechoslovak League XI beat the Soviet Union Olympic team 2-1 in the final of the President's Cup in Seoul. In the third-place match-South Korea beat Nigeria 3-2.

SWEDEN: Norrkoping beat Orebro 3-1 in the cup final.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA agrees, in Bern, to first proposals for the schedule for the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy. Holders Argentina are due to kick off in Milan on June 8, 1990, with the Final being staged in Rome on Saturday, July 8 . . . Lesotho are fined £4,000 for withdrawing at short notice from the World Cup qualifiers; India escape punishment because of financial problems — which caused their withdrawal from the Asian section in the first place; a reply is still awaited from the African confederation on Togo's withdrawal.

WEST GERMANY: Hamburg's new general manager Erich Ribbeck confirms that approaches have been made to the Soviet federation to try to sign Rinat Dasayev.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

AUSTRALIA: Saudi Arabia defeat Hong Kong 3-0 in a friendly in Melbourne in preparation for their Gold Cup duels with Brazil, Argentina and Australia.

HOLLAND: The federation rejects a protest by AZ'67 Alkmaar that they should not be relegated from the first division because of the mutually convenient goalless draw achieved the same last day of the season, between PEC Zwolle and Volendam. The Zwolle-Volendam draw — which saved both clubs from going down instead of Alkmaar — was described in one newspaper as "an unprecedented disgrace."

ITALY: Italy's European championship goalkeeper, Walter Zenga, undergoes a minor operation after twisting his left knee during training at the finals . . . Ascoli sign Napoli's Salvatore Bagni and Moreno Ferrario — two of the rebels whose mutiny just before the end of last season almost coach Ottavio Bianchi his job and almost certainly cost Napoli the championship . . . more than 2,000 Roma fans turn out to welcome new Brazilian signing Renato Portaluppi on his helicopter arrival at the club's Trigoria training camp.

SWITZERLAND: Mexico are sensationally banned from all international competition for two years by FIFA. The decision hardens up a suspension of personnel imposed by CONCACAF. Cause is the Mexican inclusion of at least four over-age players in a World Youth Cup qualifying tournament in Guatemala (the US take Mexico's place in the World Youth finals in Saudi Arabia; Guatemala take over from Mexico at the Seoul Olympics). Other decisions: Kuwait are fined £10,000 for bribery attempts to referees at two Olympic qualifying ties; Bordeaux president Claude Bez is cautioned by FIFA for incorrect behaviour towards Javier Arriaga, a member of FIFA's referees committee, during February's Pacific Cup event in Los Angeles.

WEST GERMANY: Hamburg sell Belgian fullback Gerard Plessers home to Gent.

GA
JO

FRIDAY, JULY 1

ACTION: In group five of the South American club cup, Guarani win 1-0 away to Sport Recife.

AUSTRIA: Rapid Vienna sell striker Peter Wurtz to Espanol Barcelona, who transfer Denmark's John Lauridsen to Malaga to create an import 'space' alongside Cameroon goalkeeper Thomas Nkono.

BELGIUM: Anderlecht agree the transfer of World Cup defender Stefane Demol to Bologna of Italy.

ITALY: Milan report that season ticket sales for next term have broken all previous records. So far 60,000 tickets have been sold for a total £10million.

PORTUGAL: FC Porto appoint Joaquim Duro de Jesus, better known as Quinito, as new coach in succession to Tomislav Ivic, who is off to Paris Saint-Germain after one season in Oporto.

WEST GERMANY: Bayern Munich take a training ground look at Walsall's new Irish Republic star, David Kelly.

SATURDAY, JULY 2

ACTION: Guarani win 1-0 away to fellow Brazilians of Sport Recife in the South American club cup first round group five.

ITALY: Officials of Atalanta claim to have secured the prospect of signing Soviet European championship forward Igor Belanov. Atalanta had taken over an option on Belanov originally agreed by Genoa.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA alters the rules of Olympic eligibility. After Seoul they will amended to equalise competition by banning the Games to any player who is older than 23 in the year of the Olympic final; seven new members — Aruba, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Faroe Islands and San Marino — are all admitted into full membership.

SUNDAY, JULY 3

HOLLAND: Reports of a Manchester United approach for Ronald Koeman are strenuously denied by PSV Eindhoven.

MEXICO: America of Mexico City win the championship,

SCOIGNE NS SPURS

WORLD SOCCER DIARY

beating UNAM 4-1 in the Estadio Azteca and thus 4-2 on aggregate. America's hero is two-goal Gonzalo Farfan.

SWITZERLAND: Werner Fricker, USSF president in Bern for the World Cup 1994 hosting decision the following day , says: "Nothing is ever in the bag but I think we have sufficient votes."

MONDAY, JULY 4

ACTION: Burkina Faso beat Libya 2-0 in an African qualifier of the World Cup but Libya win through to the second round 3-2 on aggregate.

AUSTRALIA: National boss Frank Arok names three uncapped players in his squad for the Bicentennial Gold Cup. They are winger Robbie Slater, Gary Van Egmond, and midfielder Vlado Bozinovski.

HUNGARY: Laszlo Balint quits as national manager after just nine months in charge.

PORTUGAL: A major shock for Benfica as sweeper Dito and star forward Rui Aguas, who had been expected to go to Italy with Pescara or Internazionale, both sign for deadly domestic rivals FC Porto.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA award the 1994 World Cup finals, as expected, to the United States. The Americans poll ten votes, Morocco seven and Brazil two. FIFA president Joao Havelange and a fellow Brazilian, executive committee member Abilio D'Almida, abstain from discussion and voting.

TUESDAY, JULY 5

ENGLAND: A new move in the TV battle as the BBC and the satellite contenders, BSB, offer the League and FA a joint £40million four-year deal.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6

ENGLAND: The government tells the football authorities, at a Downing Street summit on hooliganism, that it will impose a national membership card system starting from season 1989-90. The FA announces that a proposed friendly match in Italy on November 16 has been cancelled.

THURSDAY, JULY 7

ENGLAND: Tottenham sign Paul Gascoigne from Newcastle for a British record £2million.

FRIDAY, JULY 8

JORDAN: In the Arab championship in Amman Algeria and Syria draw 1-1 while hosts Jordan are held 0-0 by Bahrain.

URUGUAY: Nacional of Montevideo beat America of Colombia — runners-up for the past three years — in a group four tie in the South American club cup. But America remain top of the table with four points from three games.

SATURDAY, JULY 9

JORDAN: Egypt and Saudi Arabia draw 0-0 in the first major clash of the Arab championship, being staged in Amman. In another match, Iraq and Tunisia draw 1-1.

SUNDAY, JULY 10

AUSTRALIA: The Bicentennial Gold Cup starts to pick up speed with Brazil and Argentina drawing 0-0 in Melbourne.

BRAZIL: Sao Paulo draw 1-1 with Corinthians to maintain a one-point lead over their old rivals in group two of the Paulista championship.

JORDAN: In the Arab championship in Amman Algeria are held goalless by Bahrain and Kuwait beat hosts Jordan 1-0 with a 63rd-minute goal from Walid Al-Breiki.

MONDAY, JULY 11

ITALY: Juventus, turned down in a bid to sign Brazilian midfielder Alemao from Atletico Madrid, make PSV Eindhoven a new offer for Ronald Koeman . . . Ascoli sign Mustafa Arslanovic from Dinamo Zagreb and Boro Cvetkovic from Red Star Belgrade.

JORDAN: In the Arab championship in Amman Iraq and Lebanon, making a rare competitive appearance, draw 0-0; Saudi Arabia and Tunisia draw 1-1, both goals coming in the last seven minutes.

SOUTH KOREA: Park Jong-whan resigns as coach to the national Olympic team after five years because "I can't stand the pressure."

TURKEY: Toni Schumacher, controversial goalkeeper and author, starts training with his new club, Fenerbahce. No fewer than 35,000 fans (!) turn out to welcome the former West German World Cup keeper. He says: "I never seen such enthusiasm for football, not even in Italy, Spain or Mexico." Schumacher is being paid £480,000 for a two-year contract.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

ACTION: In the South American club cup, Universitario of Lima draw 1-1 at home to Guarani of Brazil, and Wanderers of Uruguay beat Millonarios of Bogota 2-1 in Montevideo with two goals from Luis Acosta . . . in the Arab championship in Amman Algeria beat Kuwait 1-0.

ARGENTINA: River Plate make Daniel Passarella, just retired after a stint in Italy with Internazionale, to return to action for them under Cesar Menotti. River need to strengthen the team after the transfers of Troglio and Caniggia (both to Verona), Pumpido (to Betis Seville) and possibly Oscar Ruggeri.

AUSTRALIA: World Cup-holders Argentina, facing a decisive showdown with hosts Australia in the Gold Cup, are rattled — protesting against the suspension (for two yellow cards) of Ricardo Giusti, and protesting about the standard of accommodation. AFA delegate Julian Pascual says: "Maybe it's lack of experience. But usually national teams in international competitions should be accommodated in five-star hotels, not motels."

CANADA: Edmonton Brick Men of the Canadian Soccer League, sign former Norwich and Nottingham Forest centre-forward Justin Fashanu, brother of Wimbledon's John.

GREECE: Olympiakos, rebuilding with money no object, pay Eintracht Frankfurt £4.7million for Hungarian Lajos Detari — making hin the most expensive Eastern European player of all time and presenting Frankfurt with a staggering profit on the player of £3.5million in 12 months.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA confirm that Guatemala have been accepted to replace banned Mexico at the Olympic finals in Seoul . . . the draws for the first round of the three European club competitions are made in Geneva.

WALES: Terry Yorath is appointed part-time national team manager.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

AUSTRALIA: Brazil qualify easily for the final of the Gold Cup, beating Saudi Arabia 4-1 in Melbourne's Olympic Park. Geovani (two penalties), Jorginho and Edmar score for Brazil, Majid Abdullah for Saudi Arabia. Geovani was injured ten minutes from the end and was thought doubtful for Sunday's final against Australia or Argentina.

ECUADOR: In the South American cup, Barcelona beat San Lorenzo of Argentina 2-0 with goals from Jimmy Izquierido and Barcelona's own Argentine, Jorge Alberto Taberna.

GREECE: Olympiakos formally 'present' new signing Lajos Detari to the media. President George Koskotas denies reports of a world record fee of £8million. But he does admit that to circumvent Greek currency laws, he bought Detari and made a 'present' of him to the club.

ITALY: Lazio, controversial even in success, sack Eugenio Fascetti, the coach who has just guided them back to the first division. Fascetti had publicly criticised the transfer dealings of the board, which included signing the two Uruguayans, Ruben Sosa from Zaragoza and Nelson Gutierrez from River Plate. Fans angry at Fascetti's dismissal hurl missiles at the club offices and have to be dispersed by riot police.

JORDAN: In the Arab championship in Amman Egypt beat Tunisia 1-0 with a 67th-minute goal from a free kick by Tarek Sulaiman. Lebanon beat Saudi Arabia 1-0 with an 80th-minute headed goal from Ahmed Farfan.

MALAYSIA: The Asian confederation confirms that FIFA have suspended two Iraqi players for two years and banned two Iraqi officials for life for attacking a referee after an Olympic qualifying match in Kuwait last December. Kuwait have also been fined for trying to bribe the referee both of this game and of the match against Qatar on January 1. Kuwait are warned that any recurrence will bring international suspension.

PORTUGAL: John Mortimore, double-winning coach to Benfica in 1986, returns to Portugal as boss of Lisbon neighbours Belenenses. Mortimore had a brief spell with Betis of Spain at the start of last season.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA reduce, on appeal, to £13,000 the fine imposed on Bayer Leverkusen for crowd chaos at the end of the UEFA Cup Final second leg against Espanol Barcelona.

INTERNATIONAL RESULTS. . .

JUNE 10

Dusseldorf — Euro chp finals, gp 1
W Germany 1 (Brehme 55)
Italy 1 (Mancini 51)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 68,400. **Ref:** Hackett (Eng).

W Germany: Immel — Buchwald, Herget, Kohler — Littbarski, Berthold, Matthaus, Thon, Brehme (Borowka 75) — Klinsmann, Voller.

Italy: Zenga — Bergomi, F. Baresi, Ferri — Donadoni, De Napoli (De Agostini 86), Ancelotti, Giannini, Maldini — Vialli, Mancini (Altobelli 89).

JUNE 11

Hannover — Euro chp finals, gp 1
Denmark 2 (Laudrup 25, Povlsen 85)
Spain 3 (Michel 5, Butragueno 52, Gordillo 67)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 60,000. **Ref:** Thomas (Hol).

Denmark: Rasmussen — I. Nielsen, M. Olsen (L. Olsen 65), Busk — Sivebaek, Helt (Jensen 46), Laudrup, Lerby, Heintze — Elkjaer, Povlsen.

Spain: Zubizarreta — Tomas, Sanchis, Andrinua, Camacho (Soler 46) — Michel, Victor, Gallego, Gordillo (Martin Vazquez 86) — Baquero, Butragueno.

JUNE 12

Stuttgart — Euro chp finals, gp 2
England 0
Rep. Ireland 1 (Houghton 5)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 53,000. **Ref:** Kirschen (EG)

England: Shilton — Stevens, Wright, Adams, Sansom — Waddle, Webb (Hoddle 59), Robson, Barnes — Beardsley (Hateley 82), Lineker.

Rep. Ireland: Bonner — Morris, McCarthy, Moran, Hughton — Houghton, McGrath, Whelan, Galvin (Sheedy 75) — Aldridge, Stapleton (Quinn 62).

Cologne — Euro chp finals, gp 2
Holland 0
Soviet Union 1 Rats (53)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 60,000. **Ref:** Pauly (WG)

Holland: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Rijkaard, R. Koeman, Van Tiggelen — Vanenburg (Van Basten 57), Wouters, Muhren — Gullit, Bosman, Van't Schip.

Sov. Union: Dasayev — Besonov, Kuznetsov, Khidiatulin, Demianenko — Belanov (Aleinikov 79), Litovchenko, Zavarov (Sulakvelidze 89), Mikhailichenko, Rats — Protasov.

JUNE 14

Gelsenkirchen — Euro chp finals, gp 1
W. Germany 2 (Klinsmann 9, Thon 85)
Denmark 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 70,000. **Ref:** Valentine (Sc)

W. Germany: Immel — Kohler, Buchwald (Borowka 33), Herget — Littbarski, Matthaus, Rolff, Thon, Brehme — Voller (Mill 73), Klinsmann.

Denmark: Schmeichel — Sivebaek, L. Olsen, I. Nielsen, Heintze — Vilfort (Berggren 72), Laudrup (Eriksen 61), M. Olsen, Lerby — Elkjaer, Povlsen.

Frankfurt — Euro chp finals, gp 1
Italy 1 (Vialli 73)
Spain 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 51,790. **Ref:** Fredriksson (Swe)

Italy: Zenga — Bergomi, F. Baresi, Ferri — Donadoni, De Napoli, Ancelotti, Giannini, Maldini — Vialli (De Agostini 89), Mancini (Altobelli 63).

Spain: Zubizarreta — Tomas, Sanchis, Andrinua, Soler — Michel (Beguiristain 72), Victor, Gallego (Martin Vazquez 66), Gordillo — Baquero, Butragueno.

JUNE 15

Dusseldorf — Euro chp finals, gp 2
England 1 (Robson 53)
Holland 3 (Van Basten 23, 71, 75)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 65,000. **Ref:** Casarin (It).

England: Shilton — Stevens, Wright, Adams, Sansom — Stevens (Waddle 69), Hoddle, Robson, Barnes — Beardsley (Hateley 72), Lineker.

Holland: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Rijkaard, R. Koeman, Van Tiggelen — Vanenburg (Kieft 61), Wouters, Muhren, E. Koeman — Gullit, Van Basten (Suvrijin 86).

Hannover — Euro chp finals, gp 2
Rep. Ireland 1 (Whelan 38)
Soviet Union 1 (Protasov 74)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 52,000. **Ref:** Soriano Aladren (Spain)

Rep. Ireland: Bonner — Morris, McCarthy, Moran, Hughton — Houghton, Whelan, Sheedy, Galvin — Aldridge, Stapleton (Cascarino 80).

Sov. Union: Dasayev (Chanov 67) — Sulakvelidze (Gotsmanov 46), Kuznetsov, Khidiatulin, Demianenko — Belanov, Mikhailichenko, Zavarov, Aleinikov, Rats — Protasov.

JUNE 17

Munich — Euro chp finals, gp 1
West Germany 2 (Voller 30 and 51)
Spain 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 72,308. **Ref:** Vautrot (Fr)

W. Germany: Immel — Borowka, Herget, Kohler — Littbarski (Wuttke 63), Matthaus, Rolff, Thon, Brehme — Klinsmann (Mill 85), Voller.

Spain: Zubizarreta — Tomas, Sanchis, Andrinua, Camacho — Michel, Martin Vazquez, Victor, Gordillo — Baquero, Butragueno (Julio Salinas 51).

Cologne — Euro chp finals, gp 1
Italy 2 (Altobelli 65, De Agostini 87)
Denmark 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 60,500. **Ref:** Galler (Swz)

Italy: Zenga — Bergomi, F. Baresi, Ferri — Donadoni (De Agostini 86), De Napoli, Ancelotti, Giannini, Maldini — Vialli, Mancini (Altobelli 65).

Denmark: Schmeichel — Kristensen, L. Olsen, I. Nielsen, Heintze — Frimann (Vilfort 57, Laudrup, M. Olsen (Berggren 66), Jensen — Eriksen, Povlsen.

Group one

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
W.Germany	3	2	1	0	5	1	5
Italy	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Spain	3	1	0	2	3	5	2
Denmark	3	0	0	3	2	7	0

JUNE 18

Frankfurt — Euro chp finals, gp 1
England 1 (Adams 16)
Soviet Union 3 (Aleinikov 3, Mikhailichenko 28, Pasulko 72)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 53,000. **Ref:** Rosa dos Santos (Port)

England: Woods — Stevens, Watson, Adams, Sansom — Steven, McMahon (Webb 53), Robson, Hoddle — Lineker (Hateley 69), Barnes.

Sov. Union: Dasayev — Besonov, Khidiatulin, Kuznetsov — Litovchenko, Mikhailichenko, Zavarov (Gotsmanov 86), Aleinikov, Rats — Belanov (Pasulko 46), Protasov.

Gelsenkirchen — Euro chp finals, gp 2
Rep. Ireland 0
Holland 1 (Kieft 81)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 70,800. **Ref:** Brummeier (Aus)

Rep. Ireland: Bonner — Morris (Sheedy 46), McCarthy, Moran, Hughton — Houghton, McGrath, Whelan, Galvin — Aldridge, Stapleton (Cascarino 82).

Holland: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Rijkaard, R. Koeman, Van Tiggelen — Vanenburg, Wouters, Muhren (Bosman 77), E. Koeman (Kieft 49) — Gullit, Van Basten.

Group two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Soviet Union	3	2	1	0	5	2	5
Holland	3	2	0	1	4	2	4
Rep. Ireland	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
England	3	0	0	3	2	7	0

JUNE 21

Hamburg — Euro chp semi-final
West Germany 1 (Matthaus 54pen)
Holland 2 (R.Koeman 73pen, Van Basten 88)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 60,000. **Ref:** Igna (Rum)

W.Germany: Immel — Borowka, Herget (Pflugler 45), Kohler — Brehme, Mill (Littbarski 84), Matthaus, Rolff, Thon — Klinsmann, Voller.

Holland: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Rijkaard, R. Koeman, Van Tiggelen — Vanenburg, Wouters, Muhren (Kieft 58), E. Koeman (Suvrijn 82) — Gullit, Van Basten.

JUNE 22

Stuttgart — Euro chp semi-final
Soviet Union 2 (Litovchenko 59, Protasov 62)
Italy 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 70,000. **Ref:** Ponnet (Bel)

Sov. Union: Dasayev — Besonov (Demianenko 35), Khidiatulin, Kuznetsov, Rats — Litovchenko, Aleinikov, Zavarov, Mikhailichenko, Gotsmanov — Protasov.

Italy: Zenga — Bergomi, F. Baresi, Ferri — Donadoni, De Napoli, Ancelotti, Giannini, Maldini (De Agostini 63) — Vialli, Mancini (Altobelli 46).

JUNE 25

Munich — Eurpean chp Final
Holland 2 (Gullit 32, Van Basten 53)
Soviet Union 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 72,308. **Ref:** Vautrot (Fr).

Holland: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Rijkaard, R. Koeman, Van Tiggelen — Vanenburg, Wouters, Muhren, E. Koeman — Gullit, Van Basten.

Soviet Union: Dasayev — Demianenko, Aleinikov, Khidiatulin, Rats — Litovchenko, Zavarov, Mikhailichenko, Gotsmanov (Baltacha 67) — Belanov, Protasov (Pasulko 71).

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

May 24 — Piraeus/first leg
Greece 0
France 0
Att: 35,000. **Ref:** Craciunescu (Rum).
Abandoned 89 minutes.

Greece: Molakidis — Papadopulos, Vakalopulos, Hatzinikolau, Kutulos, Mavromatis, Ikonomidis, Nioblias (Vaitsis 75), Kapuranis, Borbokis (Guidudis 75), Karasavidis.

France: Barrabe — Reuzeau, Buisine, Silvestre, Galtier, Roche, Despeyroux, Sauzee, Guerin, Paille, Cantona.

OTHER MATCHES

May 29: Rumania Olympic XI 3, Rumania Youth 4; Rapid Bucharest 2, Rumania 4.
June 1: Italy 4, Lugano 0; Yugoslavia 2, Yugolsavia U20 2.
June 2: Holland 13, Haarlem 2.
June 5: Roda 1, Holland 4.
June 28: President's Cup (Seoul) — Final: Czechoslovakia Lge XI 2, Soviet Union Olympic XI 1. Third-place: South Korea 3, Nigeria 2.

SOUTH/CENTRAL AMERICA

June 16
HONDURAS 1 (Machado)
ECUADOR 1 (Capurro)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING — CONCACAF zone
May 25 — Final round group A
UNITED STATES 4 (Goulet 2, Davis, Lazo)
EL SALVADOR 1 (Zapata)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Edgardo Mendez (Mexico). **Att:** 9,500.
THE United States had already qualified for the Olympic Games finals before this match in which the losers played the second half with nine men after having two sent off in the first half. The US deservedly won, but their two second half goals came only two minutes from the end.

CONCACAF CLUB CHAMPIONS TROPHY
June 5 (1st leg — final qualifier)
PLAZA AMADOR (Panana) 0
LIGA DEPORTIVA ALAJUELENSE (Costa Rica) 2 (Arroyo pen., Stevanovich)
HT: 0-1.
CUP holders L. D. Alajuelense showed superior play and ball control over their semi-professional rivals who failed near goal, also with a penalty just after half-time diverted for a corner by goalkeeper Alejandro Gonzalez.
June 12 (2nd leg — final qualifier)
LIGA DEPORTIVA ALAJUELENSE (Costa Rica) 2
PLAZA AMADOR (Panama) 1
LD Alajuelense needed only a draw to qualify for the four-team final round of the tournament for which El Aguila (El Salvador), Maratón (Honduras) and Municipal (Guatemala) had already qualified. As a matter of fact, they only scored the winner five minutes from the end.

SOUTH AMERICAN 'Joao Havelange' SUPER CUP (for Libertadores Cup winners)
May 25
Semi-final 1st leg
RACING (Avellaneda) (Argentina)

LEAGUE TABLES . . .

2 (Fernández 2, one pen.)
RIVER PLATE (Argentina) 1 (Borelli)
HT: 0-1. Ref: Juan Carlos Loustau (Argentina). **Att:** 30,000.

Racing: Fillol, Saporiti, G. Costas, Fabbri, Olarán, Acuña, Ludueña (Perez), Colombatti, Catalán (L. Costas), Medina Bello, Fernández.

River Plate: Pumpido, Borelli, Gutierrez, Ruggeri, Erbin (Enrique), Troglio, Corti, Palma (Villazán), Caniggia, Da Silva, Centurión.

RIVER Plate had the better of the first half and scored just before half-time of this often rough match in which the referee handed out six warning cards. After the interval Racing pressed more until Fernández scored their two goals — the equalizer from a penalty — but then they fell back again and goalkeeper Fillol had to work hard to keep the lead intact.

May 30
Semi-final 1st leg
NACIONAL (Uruguay) 3 (Olivera 2, Vargas)
CRUZEIRO (Brazil) 2 (Careca, Heraldo)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Gaston Castro. **Att:** 10,000.

Nacional: Seré, Gomez, Saravia, Revelez, Pintos Saldanha, Lemos, Gardaccio, Castro, Moran (Ostolaza), Vargas, Olivera (Guerra).

Cruzeiro: Wellington, Balú, Vilmar, Heraldo, Vladimir, Adhemir, Heriberto, Careca, Robson, Hamilton, Ramon.

CRUZEIRO played defensively with close marking in midfield, rough and slow play and a lot of square passing and time wasting, but Nacional had problems in reaching goal during the first half. The second half was completely different with faster rhythm and danger in front of both goals. Vargas scored Nacional's winner 13 minutes from the end.

June 4
Semi-final 2nd leg
CRUZEIRO (Brazil) 1 (Robson)
NACIONAL (Uruguay) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Ricardo Calabria (Argentina). **Att:** 91,000.

Cruzeiro: Wellington, Balú, Ademir, Vladimir, Eder, Heriberto, Careca, Robson (Ronaldinho), Hamilton, Ramon, Genilton.

Nacional: Seré, Gomez, Saravia, Revelez, Pinto Saldanha, Lemos, Cardaccio, Ostalaza, Vargas, Castro (Moran), Olivera.

CRUZEIRO were on top, but could only score the only goal 15 minutes from the end. This resulted in arguing and some blows between the players, a seven-minute suspension and the sending off of Cruzeiro's Balu and Hamilton and Nacional's Moran. In the final minute Nacional's Pinto Saldanha was also sent off. Cruzeiro qualified for the final on the away goals rule used in this tournament.

June 1
Semifinal 2nd leg
RIVER PLATE (Argentina) 1 (Gutierrez pen.)
RACING CLUB (Avellaneda) (Argentina) 1 (Fabbri)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Carlos Esposito.

River Plate: Pumpido, Borelli, Gutierrez, Ruggeri, Erbin, Enrique (Gorosito), Corti, Troglio, Caniggia, Da Silva, Alzamendi.

Racing: Fillol, Saporiti (Vasquez), G. Costas, Fabbri, Olarán, Acuña, Pérez (Medina Bello), Ludueña, Colombatti, Catalan, Fernández.

A last-minute goal by Fabbri put Racing into the final (with a draw and a win). After a poor first half with little danger to the goals both teams showed more attacking power after the interval with Racing the slightly better team. River Plate scored first however when their most dangerous striker, Canigia, was brought down in the area after beating several men and Gutierrez netted the penalty. Racing came back in the final minutes and their frantic efforts were rewarded when time added on for stoppages was being played.

June 13
Final 1st leg
RACING CLUB AVELLANEDA (Argentina) 2 (Fernandez, Colombatti)
CRUZEIRO (Brazil) 1 (Robson)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Hernan Silva (Chile). **Att:** 50,000.

Racing: Fillol, Vasquez, G. Costas, Fabbri, Olarán, Acuña (Perez), Ludueña, Colombatti, Paz, Catalan (Medina Bello), Fernández.

Cruzeiro: Wellington, Ronaldo, Gilmar, Heraldo, Vladimir, Heriberto, Ademir, Eder, Anderson (Genilton), Careca, Robson.

RACING had to fight hard to get this narrow home win with a goal by Colombatti two minutes from the end. Cruzeiro, uncharacteristically for Brazilian teams, defended stoutly and resorted to fouls and time wasting. Racing were gradually led into the play of their rivals with a lot of aimless midfield play. In the second half Cruzeiro paid the penalty for their relentless defence when they let Racing having too much of the ball.

June 18
Final 2nd leg
CRUZEIRO (Brazil) 1 (Robson)
RACING CLUB AVELLANEDA (Argentina) 1 (Catalan)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Juan Cardelino (Uruguay).

Cruzeiro: Wellington, Balú, Gilmar Francisco, Heraldo, Vladimir, Ademir, Heriberto (Ramon), Eder, Robson, Careca, Andersen.

Racing: Fillol, Vasquez, G. Costas, Fabbri, Olarán, Acuña, Ludueña, Colombatti, Paz (Perez), Catalan (Medina Bello), Fernandez.

THE Brazilian team attacked from the start, but Racing scored first after 37 minutes which made it an uphill task for Cruzeiro to stay in with a chance. They became more anxious as time passed against the calmer Racing team which held its lead until eight minutes from the end and time ran out with Cruzeiro desperately attacking for the goal to keep them in contention.

MAYOR CLUB INTERNATIONALS

May 26 — Barcelona (Eduador) 2 Barcelona (Spain) 1; May 27 — Emelec (Eduador) 2 Peñarol (Uruguay) 1; May 29 — Barcelona (Spain) 4 Peñaarol (Uruguay) 0 (in Guayaquil, Ecuador); June 15 — Universitario (Peru) 0 Newell's Old Boys (Argentina) 3; June 16 — Real Santa Cruz (Bolivia) 0 Lokomotiv (Soviet Union) 2.

OTHER INTERNATIONALS

June 5 — Costa Rica select 1 Roma (Italy) 0; June 8 — Costa Rica Select 2 Roma (Italy) 1; June 19 — Costa Rica juniors 1 Ecuador 0.

MORE RESULTS NEXT MONTH

ARGENTINA

National A Division (final standings)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newell's Old Boys	38	21	13	4	68	22	55
San Lorenzo	38	16	17	5	48	28	49
Racing Avellaneda	38	15	18	5	51	33	48
River Plate	38	17	12	9	51	40	46
Gimn y Esg. La Pl	38	11	21	6	44	36	43
Velez Sarsfield	38	14	13	11	51	41	41
Rosario Central	38	12	12	10	53	41	40
Argentinos Juniors	38	15	10	13	49	44	40
Deportivo Español	38	11	18	9	49	47	40
Platense	38	12	14	12	42	45	38
Independiente	38	12	13	13	37	44	37
Boca Juniors	38	12	11	15	40	55	35
Deportivo Armenio	38	8	18	12	37	45	34
Ferro Carril Oeste	38	12	13	13	27	35	33
*Instituto Córdoba	38	10	15	13	43	52	33
Estud de La Plata	38	6	20	12	31	43	32
Racing Córdoba	38	10	11	17	31	44	31
Banfield	38	7	14	17	36	56	28
Unión Santa Fe	38	8	12	18	39	52	28
Talleres Córdoba	38	6	15	17	40	64	27

*Forfeited two points due to incidents at their stadium.

Bottom relegation averages (points obtained over last three seasons): Estudiantes de La Plata 0.85; Platense 0.82; Racing Córdoba and Union Santa Fe 0.80; Banfield 0.73 — Banfield and Union relegated, latter after playoff with Racing Córdoba.

CHILE

"DIGEDER" CUP PRE-SEASON TOURNAMENT

Group A: (1) Colo Colo 39 points; (2) Universidad de Chile 36; (3) Palestino 29; (4) Everton, Wanderers 28; (6) Cobreandino 22; (7) Magallanes 19; (8) San Luis, Audax Italiano 18; (10) Union Calera 17.

Group B: (1) Cobresal 37; (2) Deportes Iquique, Regional Atacama 34; (4) Deportes Arica 28; (5) Dep. La Serena 27; (6) Reg. Antofagasta 21; (7) Coquimbo Unido, Ovalle 20; (9) Cobreloa, Union San Felipe 17.

Group C: (1) Union Española 40; (2) Union Catolica 37; (3) Rangers, Valdivia 23; (5) O'Higgins, Nublense 21; (7) Linares, General Velasquez 20; (9) Deportes Colchagua, Curico 16.

Group D: (1) Huachipato 33; (2) Iberia Bio-Bio, 32; (3) Fernandez Vial 31; (4) Temuco, Osorno 30; (6) Lota Schwager 26; (7) Deportes Concepción 25; (8) Naval, 19; (9) Puerto Montt 16; (10) Malleco Unido 13.

ECUADOR

First Division

(1) Liga Dep. Universitaria Quito 26 points; (2) Emelec 23; (3) Aucas 21; (4) Barcelona, Filanbanco, Audaz Octubrino 20; (7) Deportivo Cuenca, Macará, Deportivo Quito 19; (10) Tecnico Universitario, Nacional, Universidad Catolica 18; (13) Esmeraldas Petrolero, Liga Universitaria Portoviejo, Deportivo Quevedo 16; (16) Juventus 13; (17) America, River Plate 11.

BRAZIL

Carioca Championship (Rio de Janeiro) 2nd round (final):

(1) Vasco da Gama 19 points; (2) Fluminense 17; (3) Flamengo 16; (4) Botafogo 14; (5) Volta Redonda 12; (6) Americano 11; (7) Cabofriense 10; (8) Bangú, Porto Alegre 9; (10) America 7; (11) Goitacas 5; (12) Friburguense 3. (Vasco da Gama wins Rio Cup.)

3rd round: (1) Vasco da Gama 5 points; (2) Flamengo 3; (3) Americano, Fluminense 2. (Vasco da Gama and Flamengo in final series, the former with one bonus point for finishing top.)

Paulista (Sao Paulo state) Championship — 2nd round:

After 11 games (counting points obtained in first round).

Group A: (1) Ponte Preta 34 points; (2) Internacional 27; (3) Sao Paulo, Santos 25; (5) XV de Jaú 20; (6) Botafogo 18; (7) Mogimirim, Noroeste 17; (9) Juventus 14; (10) Novohorizontino 12; (11) Uniau Sao Joao 11.

Group B: (1) Bandeirante 29; (2) Corinthians, Sao José 26; (4) Guarani 25; (5) Palmeiras 22; (6) Portuguesa 20; (7) Ferroviaria 18; (8) XV de Piracicaba 16; (9) Santo André, Sao Bento 13; (11) América 12.

HONDURAS

First Division

(1) Real España 21 points; (2) Vida 20; (3) Sula 15; (4) Motagua, Maratón, Olimpia 14; (7) Universidad, Curacao, Vitoria 13; (10) Platense 9.

VENEZUELA

Professional League final round

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Maritimo	8	6	1	1	10	3	13
Tachira	8	5	1	2	14	7	11
Caracas FC	8	5	1	2	9	6	11
Zamora	8	3	3	2	8	8	9
Portuguesa	8	2	3	3	6	6	7
Mineros	8	2	2	4	11	15	6
Pepeganga	8	1	2	5	7	15	4
Lara	8	1	1	6	7	11	3

URUGUAY

"Competencia" tournament — final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Danubio	12	9	2	1	24	8	20
Peñarol	12	7	2	3	22	18	16
Defensor	12	5	4	3	14	10	14
Wanderers	12	5	3	4	11	8	13
Cerro	12	4	4	4	12	13	12
Miramar Misiones	12	5	2	5	12	17	12
Nacional	12	4	3	5	12	12	11
River Plate	12	3	5	4	12	12	11
Liverpool	12	3	5	4	8	9	11
Huracán Buceo	12	3	5	4	13	15	11
Bella Vista	12	4	1	7	10	13	9
Progreso	12	2	4	6	9	17	8
Central Español	12	2	4	6	7	16	8

*Winner (Danubio) qualifies for end-of-season playoffs for Libertadores Cup places.

COLOMBIA

"Finalización" Championship professional league (2nd stage):

After 5 games — (1) America 9 points (one game more); (2) Nacional, Quindio 8; (4) Independiente Santa Fe 7; (5) Deportivo Cali, Millionarios (one game more) 6; (7) Atletico Junior Barranquilla, Tolima, Independiente Medellin, Cucuta 5; (11) Pereira 4; (12) Sporting Barranquilla, Bucaramanga 3; (14) Magdalena, Caldas 0.

Over-all standings (top 8 enter final round): (1) Nacional 28; (2) America 26; (3) Millionarios, Quindio 21; (5) Deportivo Cali, Independiente Santa Fe 19; (7) Cucuta 18; (8) Tolima 17; (9) Pereira 16; (10) Junior 15; (11) Independiente Medellin, Sporting 14; (13) Bucaramanga 12; (14) Un. Magdalena 8; (15) Caldas 6.

PARAGUAY

First Division

First round (final standings): After 11 games — (1) Sol de America 16 points; (2) Cerro Porteño (on goals) 14; (3) Sportivo Luqueño (on goals) 14; (4) River Plate Colegiales 14; (6) Libertad, Olimpia 12; (8) San Lorenzo, Guarani 9; (10) General Caballero, Sport Colombia 8; (12) Nacional 2. (Top two take 2.5 and 1.5 bonus points into final round respectively.)

Second round (after 3 games): (1) Cerro Porteño, Olimpia, Colegiales, Libertad 5 points; (5) Sport Colombia 4; (6) Nacional, River Plate 3; (8) Guarani, Sol de America, General Caballero 2; (11) Sportivo Luqueño, San Lorenzo 0.

MEXICO

First Division (final standings before playoffs)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group 1							
Guadalajara	38	17	12	9	53	35	46
Univ. Aut. Mexico	38	15	15	8	82	55	45
Atlante	38	15	10	13	68	62	40
Tampico Madero	38	7	18	13	50	62	32
Angeles	38	9	12	17	57	79	30
Group 2							
Univ Guadalajara	38	20	10	8	77	47	50
Univ A. Guadalajara	38	18	10	10	59	41	46
Cruz Azul	38	14	12	12	58	56	40
Atlas	38	11	12	15	62	71	34
Potosino	38	7	15	16	34	53	29
Group 3							
America	38	24	7	7	86	39	55
Puebla	38	13	12	13	58	51	38
Necaxa	38	12	13	13	49	64	37
Neza	38	12	11	15	46	60	35
Irapuato	38	12	7	19	40	67	31
Group 4							
Morelia	38	14	13	11	58	43	41
Toluca	38	16	7	15	49	51	39
Univ Nuevo Leon	38	12	8	18	51	65	32
Monterrey	38	9	13	16	55	64	31
Univ. Tamaulipas	38	10	9	19	39	64	29

*Top two of each group qualify for quarter-finals.

● Continued overleaf

LEAGUE TABLES . . .

● Continued from previous page

PERU

Regional Championship — Metropolitan zone

Group 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Colegio San Agustin	3	3	0	0	8	3	6
Universitario	3	2	0	1	7	2	4
Sporting Cristal	3	1	1	1	5	2	3
As. Est. La. Union	3	1	1	1	3	3	3
Colegio N. Iquitos	3	0	2	1	3	8	2
Guardia Republic.	3	0	1	2	3	9	1
Group 2							
Union Huaral	3	1	2	0	5	3	4
Municipal	3	1	0	2	3	3	2
Alianza Lima	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Espinosa	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
Juventud La Joya	3	1	1	1	3	5	3
Internacional	2	0	0	2	1	3	0

GUATEMALA

First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Municipal	12	6	4	2	22	11	16
Bandegua	12	4	8	0	13	8	16
Galcasa	12	4	7	1	18	13	15
Aurora	11	4	6	1	19	8	14
Suchitepequez	12	4	5	3	13	14	13
Izabal	12	4	4	4	11	11	12
Juventud Retalteca	12	3	6	3	12	12	12
Comunicaciones	11	3	5	3	9	8	9
Jalapa	12	2	5	5	9	17	9
Coban	12	2	4	6	9	16	8
Xelaju	12	1	6	5	7	14	8
Chiquimulilla	12	2	4	6	15	25	8

ALBANIA

(Final champ. group)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
17 Nentori Tirana	36	18	12	6	58	28	48
Flamurtari Vlore	36	15	11	10	55	38	41
Labinoti Elbasan	36	14	11	11	31	33	39
Apolonia Fier	36	16	6	14	51	41	38
Besa Kavaje	36	11	13	12	38	36	35
Vllaznia Shkodra	36	13	8	15	39	43	34
Lokomotiva	36	11	16	9	34	34	38
Beselidhja	36	12	14	10	38	42	38
Partizani	36	12	13	11	51	44	37
Skenderbeu	36	11	14	11	26	33	36
Dinamo	36	10	14	12	41	42	34
Luftetari	36	11	11	14	30	34	33

FINLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
HJK	15	11	2	2	32	14	24
Kuusysi	15	6	5	3	29	14	19
Ilves	15	7	5	3	29	19	19
Reipas	15	7	5	3	24	21	19
TPS	15	5	7	3	17	14	17
KePS	15	6	4	5	17	17	16
RoPS	15	4	7	4	18	18	15
MP	15	5	4	6	15	23	14
Haka	15	4	5	6	19	21	13
OTP	15	3	5	7	16	22	11
KuPS	15	2	5	8	12	20	9
PPT	15	0	4	11	14	39	4

SOVIET UNION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kiev	14	10	3	1	22	5	23
Dnepr	15	7	7	1	18	9	21
Spartak	13	7	5	1	20	11	19
Torpedo	15	7	4	4	17	14	18
Zenit	14	7	3	4	24	19	17
Zhalgiris	14	6	5	3	19	15	17
Chernomorets	15	7	1	7	12	15	17
Lokomotiv	14	6	3	5	16	13	15
Ararat	15	5	4	6	10	13	14
Metallist	15	4	6	5	14	18	14
Dynamo Moscow	15	5	3	7	17	20	13
Minsk	15	3	6	6	12	15	15
Shakhtior	14	3	4	7	9	14	10
Nefchi	15	4	4	10	14	23	9
Tbilisi	14	4	0	10	16	24	8
Kairat	15	3	1	11	12	24	7

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aarau	1	1	0	0	2	0	2
Lucerne	1	1	0	0	3	2	2
Sion	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Bellinzona	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Xamax Neuchatel	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Grasshopper	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Young Boys	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Lugano	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Wettingen	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
St. Gall	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Servette	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Lausanne	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

FRANCE

(1988-89)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sochaux	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Lille	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
Toulouse	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Toulon	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
Monaco	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Nantes	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Nice	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Bordeaux	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Paris SG	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Cannes	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Auxerre	2	1	0	1	2	3	3
Montpellier	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Marseille	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Saint-Etienne	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
Strasbourg	2	0	1	1	0	3	1
Laval	2	0	1	1	0	3	1
Lens	2	0	0	2	1	3	0
Metz	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Caen	2	0	0	2	2	5	0
M-Racing Paris	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

*Note: three points for a win.

WEST GERMANY

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Borussia Mg	1	1	0	0	4	1	2
Bayern Munich	1	1	0	0	3	2	2
Karlsruhe	1	1	0	0	3	2	2
Bochum	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Werder Bremen	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Stuttgart	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Nurnberg	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Koln	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Leverkusen	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
W. Mannheim	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Uerdingen	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Hannover	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
B. Dortmund	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Hamburg	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
St. Kickers	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
St Pauli	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Kaiserslautern	1	0	0	1	1	4	0
Eint. Frankfurt	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

ALBANIA

(Final champ. group)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
17 Nentori Tirana	36	18	12	6	58	28	48
Flamurtari Vlore	36	15	11	10	55	38	41
Labinoti Elbasan	36	14	11	11	31	33	39
Apolonia Fier	36	16	6	14	51	41	38
Besa Kavaje	36	11	13	12	38	36	35
Vllaznia Shkodra	36	13	8	15	39	43	34

AUSTRIA

(Final champ. group)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rapid Wien	36	22	10	4	81	40	54
FK Austria	36	19	8	9	83	47	46
Sturm Graz	36	15	12	9	55	48	42
Vienna	36	18	3	15	68	65	39
Admira/Wacker	36	16	6	14	73	51	38
FC Tirol	36	11	15	10	47	49	37
Grazer AK	36	11	13	12	50	66	35
Wiener Sportklub	36	9	13	14	63	77	31

BELGIUM

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Brugge	34	23	5	6	74	34	51
KV Mechelen	34	21	7	6	50	24	49
FC Antwerp	34	20	9	5	75	40	49
SC Anderlecht	34	18	9	7	64	27	45
FC Liege	34	14	16	4	52	28	44
SC Waregem	34	16	7	11	50	43	39
Cercle Brugge	34	12	9	13	48	45	33
SC Charleroi	34	11	10	13	39	48	32
KV Kortrijk	34	11	9	14	40	54	31
Standard Liege	34	11	8	15	46	51	30
St Truiden VV	34	10	9	15	30	39	29
RWDM	34	8	12	14	33	48	28
Beerschot VAV	34	10	7	17	39	49	27
SK Beveren	34	8	11	15	36	38	27
FC Winterslag	34	10	6	18	32	74	26
SK Lokeren	34	9	8	17	42	47	26
AA Gent	34	8	9	17	34	60	25
Racing Jet	34	7	7	20	21	56	21

SWITZERLAND

(Final champ. group)

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Xamax	(16)	14	6	4	4	29	19	32
Servette FC	(12)	14	7	4	3	38	23	30
FC Aarau	(13)	14	6	5	3	24	17	30
Grasshoppers	(15)	14	6	3	5	23	21	30
FC Luzern	(12)	14	5	5	4	19	19	27
FC St Gallen	(12)	14	4	3	7	16	25	23
Lausanne Sp	(12)	14	3	5	6	18	30	23
Young Boys	(13)	14	4	1	9	18	31	22

*With 1st round half-points.

BULGARIA

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vitosha	30	20	8	2	67	29	48
CSKA	30	20	6	4	76	32	46
Trakia Plovdiv	30	15	9	6	52	31	39
Slavia Sofia	30	14	10	6	48	30	38
Lokomotiv Sofia	30	12	8	10	48	47	32
Beree Stara Zagora	30	11	7	12	41	45	29
Lokomotiv Plovdiv	30	12	4	14	44	59	28
Slivan	30	11	5	14	36	43	27
Etar Tirnovo	30	10	6	14	44	41	26
Spartak Varna	30	10	6	14	36	52	26
Minyer Pernik	30	10	5	15	34	37	25
Pirin Blagoevgrad	30	7	11	12	32	37	25
Lokomotiv GO	30	11	3	16	41	57	25
FC Vratsa	30	8	8	14	34	46	24
Chernomerets	30	9	3	18	27	50	21
Spartak Pleven	30	6	9	15	37	61	21

CYPRUS

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pezoporikos	30	19	10	1	56	20	48
APOEL Nicosia	30	22	3	5	66	23	47
Omonia Nicosia	30	15	7	8	59	32	37
Paralimni	30	14	8	8	44	38	36
Apollon Limassol	30	13	9	8	46	24	35
AE Limassol	30	15	5	10	46	33	35
NEA Salamina	30	14	5	11	43	34	33
Anortosis	30	9	12	9	36	36	30
EPA Larnaca	30	10	7	13	37	43	27
APOP Paphos	30	9	8	13	31	34	26
Aris Limassol	30	10	6	14	49	54	26
Olympiakos Nicosia	30	9	7	14	32	48	25
Ethnikos Achnas	30	5	13	12	27	44	23
APEP Limassol	30	5	9	16	23	54	19
Aiki Larnaca	30	4	9	17	27	63	17
Anagennisis	30	5	6	19	26	68	16

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sparta Praha	30	22	5	3	82	22	49
Dukla Praha	30	15	9	6	54	34	39
DAC Dunajska St	30	13	9	8	39	36	35
Banik Ostrava	30	13	8	9	49	40	34
Sigma Olomouc	30	12	8	10	50	46	32
Slavia Praha	30	12	7	11	49	45	31
Plastika Nitra	30	13	4	13	46	45	30
TJ Vitkovice	30	11	7	12	49	45	29
Dukla Banska By	30	12	5	13	44	46	29
Spartak Trnava	30	11	7	12	38	42	29
RH Cheb	30	9	11	10	31	36	29
Bohemians Praha	30	13	3	14	41	54	29
Inter ZTS Bratislava	30	11	5	14	50	54	27
Spartak Hradec Kral	30	8	11	11	32	52	27
ZVL Zilina	30	7	7	16	32	54	21
Tatran Presov	30	3	4	23	29	64	10

EAST GERMANY

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BFC Dynamo	26	15	7	4	59	30	37
Lok Leipzig	26	14	9	3	42	21	37
Dynamo Dresden	26	12	9	5	47	24	33
Stahl Brandenburg	26	12	5	9	44	37	29
Chemie Halle	26	7	12	7	33	33	26
Carl Zeiss Jena	26	8	10	8	28	29	26
Magdeburg	26	9	7	10	34	33	25
Karl-Marx Stadt	26	8	9	9	40	45	25
Hansa Rostock	26	7	9	10	42	49	23
Wismut Aue	26	8	7	11	24	34	23
Union Berlin	26	7	8	11	35	54	22
Rot Weiss Erfurt	26	8	5	13	40	49	21
Vorwarts Frankfurt	26	6	9	11	33	43	21
Stahl Riesa	26	3	10	13	23	43	16

FRANCE

1987-88 Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monaco	38	20	12	6	53	29	52
Bordeaux	38	18	10	10	46	30	46
Montpellier	38	18	9	11	68	38	45
St. Etienne	38	18	6	14	54	56	42
Toulon	38	14	13	11	41	26	41
Marseille	38	18	5	15	49	43	41
Racing Paris	38	12	17	9	35	42	41
Metz	38	16	8	14	46	40	40
Auxerre	38	12	15	11	37	29	39
Nantes	38	13	13	12	46	41	39
Lille	38	14	9	15	45	38	37
Cannes	38	13	11	14	42	52	37
Toulouse	38	14	7	17	35	47	35
Laval	38	12	10	16	38	38	34
Paris St. Germain	38	12	10	16	38	38	34
Nice	38	15	3	20	42	47	33
Lens	38	13	7	18	40	62	33
Niort	38	11	10	17	34	42	32
Brest	38	11	10	17	32	52	32
Le Havre	38	8	11	19	35	56	27

TURKEY

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Galatasaray	38	27	9	2	86	35	90
Besiktas	38	22	12	4	68	29	78
Malatyaspor	38	17	11	10	64	61	62
Samsunspor	38	17	9	12	43	41	60
Bursaspor	38	17	6	15	63	56	57
Trabzonspor	38	16	9	13	57	51	57
Karsiyaka	38	13	17	8	43	34	56
Fenerbahce	38	15	10	13	45	43	55
Sariyer	38	12	16	10	60	51	52
Adana Demirspor	38	16	4	18	59	64	52
Sakaryaspor	38	14	9	15	54	67	51
Altay	38	13	9	16	60	57	48
Ankaragucu	38	11	13	14	46	47	46
Beluspor	38	13	7	18	45	52	46
Eskisehirspor	38	11	13	14	45	53	46
Rizespor	38	13	7	18	37	56	46
Denizlispor	38	12	9	17	35	48	45
Kocaelispor	38	6	16	16	44	61	34
Genclerbirligi	38	7	9	22	41	65	30
Zonguldakspor	38	6	9	23	37	61	27

POLAND

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gornik Zabrze	30	19	7	4	65	30	51
GKS Katowice	30	14	9	7	40	23	40
Legia Warsaw	30	15	8	7	39	27	39
LKS Lodz	30	16	5	9	40	29	39
Widzew Lodz	30	8	15	7	28	24	31
Slask Wroclaw	30	9	11	10	31	32	29
Szombierki Bytom	30	10	10	10	28	29	29
Jagiellonia Bialy	30	11	7	12	24	25	29
Lech Poznan	30	10	9	11	29	30	28
Pogon Szczecin	30	12	5	13	32	36	28
Zaglebie Lubin	30	8	11	11	23	25	26
Lechia Gdansk	30	6	14	10	18	26	26
Olimpia Poznan	30	7	11	12	36	42	24
Gornik Walbrzych	30	6	11	13	24	36	24
Baltyk Gdynia	30	9	6	15	27	41	21
Stal Stalowa Wola	30	6	9	15	31	56	16

1 extra point awarded for a victory by 3 goals or more, one point deducted for a similar defeat.

PORTUGAL

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Porto	38	29	8	1	88	15	66
Benfica	38	19	13	6	59	25	51
Belenenses	38	18	12	8	52	38	48
Sporting	38	17	13	8	62	41	47
Boavista	38	16	14	8	42	25	46
Espinho	38	13	14	11	42	38	40
Chaves	38	13	14	11	51	31	40
Victoria Setubal	38	15	10	13	56	43	40
Maritimo	38	11	17	10	36	37	39
Penafiel	38	10	18	10	36	45	38
Braga	38	8	18	12	32	42	34
Farense	38	12	10	16	36	50	34
Portimonense	38	12	10	16	35	50	34
Vitoria Guimaraes	38	11	11	16	48	50	33
Elvas	38	8	17	13	35	40	33
Academica	38	9	15	14	32	32	33
Varzim	38	7	16	15	31	52	30
Rio Ave	38	7	14	17	29	67	28
Salgueiros	38	6	13	19	31	62	25
Covilha	38	5	11	22	30	70	21

RUMANIA

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Steaua Bucharest	34	30	4	0	114	18	64
Dinamo Bucharest	34	30	3	1	107	25	63
Victoria Bucharest	34	18	4	12	58	41	60
Otelul Galati	34	18	3	13	49	46	39
Un Craiova	34	16	4	14	61	51	36
Flacara Moreno	34	13	8	13	40	46	34
Cor Hunedoara	34	13	4	17	55	63	30
Olt	34	13	4	17	41	62	30
Brasov	34	11	7	16	47	51	29
Arges Pitesti	34	11	7	16	41	47	29
Univ Cluj	34	11	7	16	39	54	29
Tirgu Mures	34	13	3	18	49	66	29
Bacau	34	10	9	15	36	53	29
Rapid Bucharest	34	10	9	15	36	58	29
Sportul	34	10	8	16	43	51	28
Petrolul Ploesti	34	10	6	18	24	51	26
Poli Timisoara	34	9	7	18	33	53	25
CSM Suceava	34	9	5	20	35	72	23

LUXEMBOURG

(Final champ. group)

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juen d'Esch	(17)	6	4	0	2	9	7	25
Ave Beggen	(14)	6	4	1	1	12	4	23
Un Luxem	(13½)	6	3	1	1	11	7	20½
Sp Luxem	(16½)	6	0	0	6	3	17	16½

*With 1st round half-points.

LEAGUE TABLES . . .

YUGOSLAVIA

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Red Star	34	17	11	6	66	39	45
Partizan	34	17	10	7	62	37	44
Velez Mostar	34	15	12	7	61	34	42
Dinamo Zabreg	34	16	10	8	55	36	42
Sloboda Tuzla	34	14	10	10	53	41	38
Vardar Skopje	34	15	7	12	37	40	37
Radnicki Nis	34	14	4	16	48	46	32
Rijecka	34	9	14	11	33	39	32
Buducnost	34	10	12	12	40	48	32
Vojvodina	34	11	10	13	40	51	32
Osijek	34	10	11	13	44	61	31
Zeljeznicar	34	8	14	12	38	44	30
Hajduk Split	34	8	14	12	40	50	30
Sarajevo	34	11	8	15	37	47	30
Rad Beograd	34	11	8	15	44	56	30
Sutjesta	34	10	9	15	42	49	29
Pristina	34	10	7	17	43	59	27
Celik	34	12	5	17	39	45	23

*Celik and Pristina deducted six points for last-round match fixing.

HUNGARY

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Honved	30	17	7	6	48	23	41
Tatabanya	30	13	11	6	58	35	37
Ujpesti Dozsa	30	12	13	5	48	29	37
Raba Eto	30	14	7	9	49	43	35
Ferencvaros	30	12	9	9	47	32	33
MTK-VM	30	14	4	12	53	50	32
Haladas	30	9	13	8	39	37	31
Pecs	30	11	9	10	31	34	31
Vasas	30	9	11	10	33	37	29
Vac	30	9	10	11	34	34	28
Videoton	30	6	15	9	28	32	27
Siofok	30	9	9	12	39	50	27
Bekescsaba	30	8	11	11	30	42	27
Zalaegerszeg	30	7	11	12	26	32	25
Debrecen	30	8	7	15	33	48	23
Kasposvar	30	4	9	17	25	63	17

NORTHERN IRELAND

Final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glentoran	26	19	5	2	48	15	62
Linfield	26	19	3	4	51	15	60
Coleraine	26	16	4	6	53	28	52
Newry Town	26	15	5	6	34	22	50
Larne	26	12	4	10	35	35	40
Glenavon	26	11	5	10	28	27	38
Ballymena United	26	9	9	8	34	34	36
Portadown	26	10	5	11	31	27	35
Crusaders	26	8	6	12	29	35	30
Cliftonville	26	6	8	12	18	38	26
Ards	26	6	7	13	29	38	25
Banger	26	7	4	15	24	47	25
Carrick Rangers	26	5	5	16	25	44	20
Distillery	26	3	2	21	19	53	11

SLUMP IN BRAZIL

● *Continued from page 25*

But it is not fair to blame the referees alone, the problem goes deeper than that.

The state championships in Brazil are run by the state federations and referees for matches are chosen by the directors of the federations. And the directors are all affiliated to the clubs and have the power to veto a referee they don't like. This means that referees are afraid to send players off for fear of offending the players' directors.

If a player is sent off, he goes to the tribunal to receive his punishment. But if he doesn't like the punishment he can go to another tribunal to try and get it reduced. And if that fails he can go to court of law (Players who receive three yellow cards are automatically suspended for one game).

"Brazilian referees are good technically but not in regards to discipline and they suffer pressures from outside the field," said Zico. "The directors themselves go out of their way to protect their players from punishment at the tribunals. And what about the morale of the referee when that happens. How does he feel?"

Hesitate

The *Journal do Brazil* newspaper claimed that "no director is interested in finishing the violence. When a player from his club is the aggressor he does not hesitate to go to the law courts to escape the punishment of the sports tribunals. The directors are not against violence itself but violence when the victim is a player from their club."

In addition, managers of Brazilian clubs are under enormous pressure to get results. So if their players get results by using violence, they don't mind. Witness the comments of America manager Claudio Garcia after the Flamengo match. Instead of punishing Sandro and Co. he criticised the referee for "pressurising my players."

"When one of my players was injured, the referee allowed the game to continue but when it was Renato he stopped play and allowed him to be treated," he complained.

Incidentally, criticising the referee is not taboo as it is in much of Europe. In fact it is almost a fashion amongst managers whose teams have not performed well.

Two significant suggestions have been put forward to stop the violence. Zico wants a rule saying that if a player is put out of action by a bad foul, the culprit should be suspended until the victim starts playing again. Saldanha suggests independent committees to select referees for matches and one single disciplinary tribunal — "Here we have tribunals, courts of law, lawyers, everything. One tribunal would solve the problem."

As it is, Brazilian football is losing Zico and Renato partly because of the violence, as well as thousands of fans.

Before his injury Zico had been intending to play on for two more years. Now he says he is retiring to Japan and to other ventures when his contract with Flamengo expires in June.

Renato had been saying that he was prepared to forego the riches of Italy because he was happy in Rio, where he receives dozens of letters from admiring fans every day. "Happiness does not have a price," he was quoted as saying. Now he has changed his mind and he says it is because of the violence.

As for attendances, any match in the Maracana stadium a few years ago between two of Rio's top teams (Flamengo, Vasco, Fluminese and Botafogo) would attract a minimum of 70,000. Now it is around ten or twenty thousand. When lesser teams are involved, attendances can go down to 2,000 or less in a stadium with a capacity for 160,000. Violence on the field is blamed together with Brazil's economic recession.

Violence apart Brazil is suffering the usual disorganisation both of the domestic competitions and the national team. The São Paulo state championship ground to a halt for three weeks because two clubs who were relegated under last year's rules, Ponte Preta and Bandeirante, won the right to compete in this year's tournament in a court of law.

Complete

The other clubs responded with a boycott, which only Corinthians broke, but the competition started up again at the beginning of May with the two "relegated" clubs allowed to compete.

By the beginning of May the national team had been without a manager for four months. The contract with the previous manager, Carlos Alberto Silva, expired in December, has not been renewed and he went back to managing a club side, Cruzeiro of belo Horizonte. He was then reappointed in a hurry in time for the Bicentennial Cup in Australia.

Also unresolved for months was the issue of who were the "champions" of 1987 and therefore Brazil's representatives in the Libertadores Cup. Would it be Flamengo and Internacional, winners and runners-up of the "first division" or Sport and Guarani from the "second division".

Sport and Guarani got the vote of the C & F. But few other people agreed.

● *Continued from page 5*

provides the opposition in a World Cup qualifying match, is to reach even greater heights.

The parallels with the 1974 side were inevitable, although Michels believes that, "the present side are not as strong. We had more really good players then — 12 or 13; but we do have five or six at the moment who are very good."

But, if the new Dutch masterpiece which is now worthy of a place alongside the old masters, is not quite as refined as the original in 1974, they still managed, more than any other side to do the hardest thing in the game: play simple football.

"Our movement under pressure was the best," Michels said.

Michels certainly took some risks not least with Ronald Koeman, who was not quite at his best, though one never would have guessed it; his adventurism was stifled somewhat by the requirement of a daily injection to assist treatment of a lingering injury.

Moreover, Michels clearly realised the value of some of the lesser known names such as Van Aerle, Van Tiggelen and, not least, Wouters.

"We wouldn't be here today," Michels said in acknowledgement after the final, "if it wasn't for Wouters." Wouters had, in fact, been an excellent foil for those such as Van Basten whose divine gifts lay elsewhere.

To blend the two factions into such an effective unit, yet keep faith with the attacking policy laced with verve and flair was, I believe, Michels' greatest work. The footballing Rembrandt of his time.

There also existed in Germany a school of thought which suggested that Futuristic Soviets tactically were more sophisticated than the Dutch. Granted, the Soviets with their tape recorders and computerised methods were extremely sophisticated. But, although they certainly were fast and fit they also seemed on occasions somewhat robotic; looking to the bench for instructions does not always suggest a high level of flexibility.

The beauty of Holland's play was that they were able to produce the kind of spontaneous brilliance from which the unexpected could emanate from any source — Van Basten's goal in the final, for instance.

So, where do the Dutch go from here? Michels's loss clearly is a blow but given the talent that Libregts has, and the adherence of commonsense it is one, nonetheless, which should be overcome. Libregts does not exactly have time on his side but he has inherited a side which tactically and technically, is the best in Europe. Failure to add to Holland's laurels will undoubtedly reflect badly on him.

The average age of the team in Germany was 27, but with Muhren's retirement from international football, and his replacement likely to be his young Ajax colleague, Aron Winter, that will be reduced to 25 — a young, yet experienced side ripe for Italy in two years time.

Muhren's cultured left foot will be badly missed. And, although the basic 11-12 players are very strong, Holland simply does not appear to have the same depth of talent it had 14 years ago.

Wilbert Suvrijn, the Roda defender who appeared for seven minutes in Germany, Sjaak Troost, of Feyenoord and Wim Koevermans of Fortuna Sittard, seem to have little chance of establishing themselves in defensive formation which conceded only three goals in five games.

Hendrie Kuizen, the 23-year-old from Den Bosch will challenge Winter for the one vacancy in midfield, while Bosman and Van't Schip, so disappointing in Germany, still have much to learn at this level.

The Ajax youngsters, Brian Roy and Rob Witschge are long-term prospects and, given time, some members of the relatively successful Holland under-21 team which reached the semi-final of their particular competition should earn promotion to the senior ranks.

Although they were comprehensively beaten by Greece (5-2 on aggregate) most of the usual team were on first team duty for their clubs at the time of the first leg in Greece, hence the 5-1 defeat.

Still, the senior squad more than made amends in Germany. And, if, for obvious reasons the defeat of the hosts in the semi-final was the highlight, the most important factor was that Holland finally convinced the world, not only that it could play exhilarating football, but that it possessed the stuff of which true champions are made.

The future should be bright. Libregts has a big responsibility to ensure that the nation's development echoes what we saw in Germany. Equally so, the players who bitterly regretted Michels's departure must ensure that petty squabbling does not hinder Libregts in his task to add the World Cup to the Henri Delaunay trophy already sitting at the Dutch FA's headquarters in Zeist.

WORLD CUP DATES

EUROPE

GROUP 1

(Denmark, Bulgaria, Rumania, Greece)

19.10.88	Greece v Denmark
19.10.88	Bulgaria v Rumania
2.11.88	Rumania v Greece
2.11.88	Denmark v Bulgaria
26. 4.89	Greece v Rumania
26. 4.89	Bulgaria v Denmark
17. 5.89	Rumania v Bulgaria
17. 5.89	Denmark v Greece
11.10.89	Bulgaria v Greece
11.10.89	Denmark v Rumania
15.11.89	Greece v Bulgaria
15.11.89	Rumania v Denmark

GROUP 2

(England, Poland, Sweden, Albania)

19.10.88	England v Sweden
19.10.88	Poland v Albania
5.11.88	Albania v Sweden
8. 3.89	Albania v England
26. 4.89	England v Albania
7. 5.89	Sweden v Poland
3. 6.89	England v Poland
6. 9.89	Sweden v England
8.10.89	Sweden v Albania
11.10.89	Poland v England
25.10.89	Poland v Sweden
15.11.89	Albania v Poland

GROUP 3

(Soviet Union, East Germany, Austria, Iceland, Turkey)

31. 8.88	Iceland v Soviet Union
12.10.88	Turkey v Iceland
19.10.88	Soviet Union v Austria
19.10.88	East Germany v Iceland
2.11.88	Austria v Turkey
30.11.88	Turkey v East Germany
12. 4.89	East Germany v Turkey
26. 4.89	Soviet Union v East Germany
10. 5.89	Turkey v Soviet Union
17. 5.89	East Germany v Austria
31. 5.89	Soviet Union v Iceland
14. 6.89	Iceland v Austria
23. 8.89	Austria v Iceland
6. 9.89	Austria v Soviet Union
6. 9.89	Iceland v East Germany
20. 9.89	Iceland v Turkey
7/8.10.89	East Germany v Soviet Union
25.10.89	Turkey v Austria
8.11.89	Soviet Union v Turkey
15.11.89	Austria v East Germany

GROUP 4

(West Germany, Holland, Wales, Finland)

31. 8.88	Finland v West Germany
14. 9.88	Holland v Wales
19.10.88	Wales v Finland
19.10.88	West Germany v Holland
26. 4.89	Holland v West Germany
31. 5.89	Wales v West Germany
31. 5.89	Finland v Holland
6. 9.89	Finland v Holland
4.10.89	West Germany v Finland
11.10.89	Wales v Holland
15.11.89	West Germany v Wales
15.11.89	Holland v Finland

GROUP 5

(France, Scotland, Yugoslavia, Norway, Cyprus)

14. 9.88	Norway v Scotland
28. 9.88	France v Norway
19.10.88	Scotland v Yugoslavia
22.10.88	Cyprus v France
2.11.88	Cyprus v Norway
19.11.88	Yugoslavia v France
11.12.88	Yugoslavia v Cyprus
8. 2.89	Cyprus v Scotland
8. 3.89	Scotland v France
22. 4.89	Scotland v Cyprus
29. 4.89	France v Yugoslavia
16. 5.89	Norway v Cyprus
14. 6.89	Norway v Yugoslavia
5. 9.89	Norway v France
6. 9.89	Yugoslavia v Scotland
11.10.89	Yugoslavia v Norway
11.10.89	France v Scotland
28.10.89	Cyprus v Yugoslavia
15.11.89	Scotland v Norway
18.11.89	France v Cyprus

GROUP 6

(Spain, Hungary, Northern Ireland, Ireland Republic, Malta)

21.5.88	Northern Ireland v Malta	3-0
14. 9.88	North Ireland v Ireland Rep	
19.10.88	Hungary v Northern Ireland	
16.11.88	Spain v Ireland Republic	
11.12.88	Malta v Hungary	
21.12.88	Spain v Northern Ireland	
22. 1.89	Malta v Spain	
8. 2.89	Northern Ireland v Spain	
8. 3.89	Hungary v Ireland Republic	
22. 3.89	Spain v Malta	
12. 4.89	Hungary v Malta	
26. 4.89	Malta v Northern Ireland	
26. 4.89	Ireland Republic v Spain	
28. 5.89	Ireland Republic v Malta	
4. 6.89	Ireland Republic v Hungary	
6. 6.89	Northern Ireland v Hungary	
11.10.89	Hungary v Spain	
11.10.89	Ireland Rep v Nor Ireland	
15.11.89	Spain v Hungary	
	Malta v Ireland Republic	

GROUP 7

(Belgium, Portugal, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Luxembourg)

21. 9.88	Luxembourg v Switzerland
19.10.88	Belgium v Switzerland
19.10.88	Luxembourg v Czechoslo
16.11.88	Czechoslovakia v Belgium
16.11.88	Portugal v Luxembourg
15. 2.89	Portugal v Belgium
25/6. 4.89	Portugal v Switzerland
30. 4.89	Belgium v Czechoslovakia
10. 5.89	Czechosl. v Luxembourg
31.5/1. 6.89	Luxembourg v Belgium
7. 6.89	Switzerland v Czechosl.
6. 9.89	Belgium v Portugal
20. 9.89	Switzerland v Portugal
6.10.89	Czechoslovakia v Portugal
11.10.89	Luxembourg v Portugal
11.10.89	Switzerland v Belgium
25.10.89	Czechosl. v Switzerland
25.10.89	Belgium v Luxembourg
15.11.89	Portugal v Czechoslovakia
	Switzerland v Luxembourg

Winners of five-team groups (Groups 3, 5, 6 and 7) and runners-up all qualify. Winners only from the four-team groups (1, 2 and 4) qualify for the finals — plus the top two teams of a play-off section between the runners-up of these three groups.

AFRICA

ROUND 1

Group 1

7. 8.88	Angola v Sudan	
19. 8.88	Sudan v Angola	
12. 6.88	Lesotho v Zimbabwe	
26. 6.88	Zimbabwe v Lesotho	
	Zambia w/o v Rwanda (with)	
16. 7.88	Uganda v Malawi	
30. 7.88	Malawi v Uganda	
3. 6.89	Libya v Burkino Faso	3-0
3. 7.89	Burkino Faso v Libya	2-0
	Libya 3-2 on agg	
7. 8.88	Ghana v Liberia	
21. 8.88	Liberia v Ghana	
5. 8.88	Tunisia v Guinea	
21. 8.88	Guinea v Tunisia	
7. 8.88	Togo v Gabon	
21. 8.88	Gabon v Togo	

ROUND 2

Group 1: Algeria, Ivory Coast, Lesotho or Zimbabwe, Libya or Burkino Faso. Group 2: Egypt, Kenya, Uganda or Malawi, Ghana or Liberia. Group 3: Cameroon, Nigeria, Angola or Sudan, Togo or Gabon. Group 4: Morocco, Zaire, Zambia, Tunisia or Guinea.

ROUND 3

Winners Gp 1 v Winners Gp 2; Winners Gp 3 v Winners Gp 4. Aggregate winning teams qualify for the finals.

ASIA

WEST ASIA — Group 1: Jordan, Iraq, Oman, Qatar. Group 2: S. Arabia, Bahrain, Syria, AR Yemen. Group 3: UAE, Kuwait, Pakistan, RP Yemen. EAST ASIA — Group 4: S. Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Nepal. Group 5: China, Iran, Thailand, Bangladesh (India withdrew from Group 4, so Nepal was switched from Group 5 to Group 4 to even the numbers). Winners of all groups play off in a league system with top two teams qualifying for the finals.

NORTH/CENTRAL AMERICA

Group 1

Round 1

19. 6.88	Antigua v Neth. Antilles	0-1
29. 7.88	Neth. Antilles v Antigua	
12. 5.88	Jamaica v Puerto Rico	1-0
29. 5.88	Puerto Rico v Jamaica	1-2
	Jamaica 3-1 on agg	
17. 4.88	Guyana v Trinidad/Tobago	0-4
8. 5.88	Trinidad/Tobago v Guyana	1-0
	Trinidad/Tobago 5-0 on agg	

Round Two

El Salvador v Antigua or Neth. Antilles; Trinidad/Tobago v Honduras.

24. 7.88	Jamaica v USA	0-0
30. 8.88	USA v Jamaica	

Group 2

Round 1

17. 7.88	Costa Rica v Panama	1-1
31. 7.88	Panama v Costa Rica	
30. 4.88	Cuba v Guatemala	0-1
15. 5.88	Guatelama v Cuba	1-1
	Guatemala 2-1 on agg	

Round 2

Costa Rica or Panama w/o v Mexico; Guatemala v Canada.

Note: The five winners of Round Two play off in a league with the top two qualifying for the finals.

OCEANIA

Round 1

11.12.88	Taiwan v New Zealand
18.12.88	New Zealand v Taiwan
26.11.88	Fiji v Australia
3.12.88	Australia v Fiji

Round 2: First round winners plus Israel play off in mini league with winning team playing winners of S. America Gp 2 for place in the finals.

SOUTH AMERICA

Group 1

20. 8.89	Bolivia v Peru
27. 8.89	Peru v Uruguay
3. 9.89	Bolivia v Uruguay
10. 9.89	Peru v Bolivia
17. 9.89	Uruguay v Bolivia
24. 9.89	Uruguay v Peru

Group 2

20. 8.89	Colombia v Ecuador
27. 8.89	Paraguay v Colombia
3. 9.89	Ecuador v Colombia
10. 9.89	Paraguay v Ecuador
24. 9.89	Colombia v Paraguay
1.10.89	Ecuador v Paraguay

Group 3

30. 7.89	Venezuela v Brazil
6. 8.89	Venezuela v Chile
13. 8.89	Chile v Brazil
20. 8.89	Brazil v Venezuela
27. 8.89	Chile v Venezuela
3. 9.89	Brazil v Chile

Winners of Groups 1 and 3 qualify for the finals. Winners of Gp 2 play off against Oceania section winners for place in the finals.

SHOP WINDOW

Private PEN-PALS and SWAPS printed free (subject to availability of space and not guaranteed for a particular month) up to a maximum of 30 words, including name and address. SALES-WANTED — 20p per word. DISPLAY — £10 (plus 15% VAT) per single column centimetre (minimum 3 scc). Cash with order by 15th of the month preceding date of issue. Please print all advertisements in capital letters. All order should be addressed to: Mick Hooker, Advertisement Manager, World Soccer, 29th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

SCP SPORTING CLUBE DE PORTUGAL

OFFICIAL SOUVENIRS FOR ALL AGES

FOR THE LATEST PRICE LIST SEND SAE TO:

LOJA VERDE

Estádio José Alvalade 6 A
1699 Lisboa Codex — Telf.: 758 35 87

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL TODAY

SCOTLAND'S BIGGEST MONTHLY SELLER!

A MAGAZINE PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH OF THE YEAR

80p MONTHLY

Coverage on every Premier division club — 1st, 2nd division, Highland league — Plus feature articles on the stars. 1988 Annual £5.95 UK $11.20 Overseas.

Sample copies available — £1.00 UK & BFPO; $2.00 (US) Overseas UK & BFPO Subscriptions £12.00; All overseas $26.00 (US) Surface.

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL TODAY
3 MARCHFIELD GROVE, EDINBURGH EH4 5BN

DICK RATTRAY
Football Programmes

ALWAYS A LARGE & VARIED SELECTION OF SPECIALS, LEAGUE & NON-LEAGUE IN MY CATALOGUE, RANGING FROM PRE-WAR TO DATE.
THERE IS ALSO AN OFFERS SECTION FOR THE SPECIALIST COLLECTOR.
WRITE OR PHONE FOR YOUR FREE INTRODUCTORY COPY TO:

DICK RATTRAY
FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES
6 The Sycamores, Boxmoor,
Hemel Hempstead, Herts
HP3 0LL
Telephone: (0442) 64210

WANTED

Wish to purchase Results of all Football League games played for the past five years or longer. The results can be either hard copy or machine readable copy . . .

CAN YOU HELP?

Apply to: BOX No.004,
Webster Publications, 29th Floor, Kings' Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.

THE FOOTBALL PROGRAMME DIRECTORY
Organisers of the International Programme Fair of the year
The monthly magazine for programme collectors and others interested in our national game
PROGRAMME NEWS — ADVERTS SECTION — MEMBERS' LETTERS — DETAILS OF PROGRAMME FAIRS — COLLECTORS' MEETINGS — MANY OTHER FEATURES
Subscriptions £6 for 2 issues, overseas £7
the 100th issue was celebrated in March 1983
Ordinary Back Issues 50p — the 100th Issue 75p
FPD Pennants 50p — FPD Badges 50p
For further details or to subscribe contact:
DAVID STACEY (Editor), The FPD (Dept WS)
66 Southend Road, Wickford, Essex SS11 8EN

COVENTRY CITY FC
Sky Blue Shop
King Richard Street
Coventry

OFFICIAL SOUVENIRS

FA CUP WINNERS 1987
Send SAE for our new price list of

OFFICIAL COVENTRY CITY SOUVENIRS

Replica kits, Sweatshirts, Ties Scarves, Caps, Lampshades etc

Rangers! Celtic! Hearts! Aberdeen!

We are the specialists in Scottish Football Programmes and Souvenirs.
Send now for catalogue
Overseas send IRC

Collections purchased
Football Crazy
13A Spittal Street
Edinburgh EH3 9DY
or telephone 031 228 2633

PROGRAMME SCENE MAGAZINE

(Formerly Programme World Magazine)

with reviews, surveys, articles, photographs, and photostats in this monthly publication for collectors. Approximately 50 packed pages every month including a classified section. Send for your latest copy — £1 inc P+P. Overseas £2

Programme Scene Magazine (WS),
26 Les Canichers, St Peter Port,
Guernsey

Issued by CA, Guernsey, Channel Islands.

SWIFTS PROGRAMMES (WS)

Send 2 × 18p stamps or 2 IRCs for our latest 60+ page catalogue that includes ALL league clubs from pre-war to date, books, magazines and rare offers list. We can also collect and pay cash for your unwanted items.

Ground Floor, 40 Sidney Road, Wood Green,
London N22 4LU. Tel: (01) 881 1743

FOR DETAILS OF ADVERTISING ON THESE PAGES PHONE MIKE HOOKER 01-261 5607

TAKE CARE

The Publishers recommend that respondents to classified advertisments exercise reasonable precautions before engaging in postal transactions.

AVAILABLE SOON: FINE ART COLOUR PRINTS OF EURO '88 STARS VAN BASTEN, GUILLIT, ETC. £10 PER PRINT.

SPORTS ARTIST'S SOCCER ORIGINALS AND PRINTS

Successful artist offers superb portraits and action pictures of soccer stars. Commissions for original works from photographs if required. Example: A3 colour original £35 (unframed). A3 colour prints £8. All prices inclusive of p&p.

Full details from: Patrick Loan, 257a St. Faith's Road, Old Catton, Norwich, Norfolk NR6 7BB. Tel: (0603) 483688.

NOW AVAILABLE — THE 1987/8 VERSION OF THIS REPLAY SIMULATION

'SOCCER REPLAY' — £11.95

THIS IS NOT A COMPUTER GAME, BUT THE PLAY-SYSTEM PRODUCES ACCURATE AND REALISTIC RESULTS USING DICE, CHARTS AND TEAM CARDS WITH INDIVIDUALLY RATED PLAYERS.

GREAT FOR SOLO OR FACE-TO-FACE PLAY

THE FOLLOWING EXTENSION KITS ARE ALSO NOW AVAILABLE:-

ITALIAN LEAGUE '86/7	£2.00	BUNDESLIGA '86/7	£2.25
EUROPEAN SET '87	£2.25	CHAMPIONS	£2.25
WORLD CUP '66	£2.25	WORLD CUP '86	£2.75
SCOTTISH PREMIER '86/7	£2.25	3rd & 4th DIVS. '86/7	£3.25
INTERNATIONAL SET '87	£2.25	SUPP. TO INTERNATIONAL SET '87	£2.25
ITALIAN LEAGUE '87/8	£2.25	EUROPEAN SET '88	£2.25
ENGLISH DIVISIONS '87/8	£6.50		

ALL PRICES INCLUDE P&P (UK ONLY) — SORRY NO CREDIT CARDS.

CHEQUES & P/O's TO: LAMBOURNE GAMES, 67 THE DRIVE, REYDON, SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK IP18 6PN. (0502 723419).
LAMBOURNE GAMES — THE SPORTS REPLAY SPECIALISTS.

FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

FULHAM F.C.

SOUVENIRS FOR ALL AGES

FOR THE LATEST PRICE LIST SEND SAE TO:

Black & White Shop
Craven Cottage, Stevenage Road
Fulham, London SW6 6HH
Tel: (01) 736 6561/4634

THE SOCCER SPECIALIST

SOCCER VIDEOS (PAL)

WORLD CUPS

1954 World Cup Series (Highlights). B/W	£18.95
1956 World Cup Series. Korea v Portugal. B/W	£18.95
1966 World Cup Final. England v W. Germany. B/W	£18.95
GOAL. Highlights 1966 World Cup	£12.95
1970 World Cup. Mexico	£27.95
1974 World Cup. Munich	£24.95
1982 World Cup. Golé	£9.99
1986 World Cup. Hero	£9.99
Story of the World Cup	£6.99
Soccer Game of the Century (Hist. of World Cup)	£9.99

EUROPEAN CUP FINALS

1960 Real Madrid v Eintracht. B/W	£18.95
1965 West Ham v TSV Munich. B/W	£18.95
1967 Celtic v Inter Milan. B/W	£18.95
1968 Manchester Utd v Benfica. B/W	£18.95
1988 Road to Munich	£9.99

History of Arsenal FC	£ 9.99
History of Liverpool FC	£ 9.99
Rangers 1986/1987 season	£ 9.99
Pele. The Story of	£24.95
Giants of Brazil	£24.95
Hoddle. Portrait of a soccer super star	£14.95

F.A. CUP FINALS

1961 Spurs v Leicester City B/W	£ 9.99
1963 Manchester Utd. v Leicester City. B/W	£18.95
1964 West Ham v Preston. B/W	£ 9.99
1966 Everton v Sheffield Weds. B/W	£ 9.99
1970 Chelsea v Leeds Utd.	£ 9.99
1970 Chelsea v Leeds Utd. The Replay	£ 9.99
1973 Sunderland v Leeds Utd.	£ 9.99
1974 Liverpool v Newcastle Utd.	£ 9.99
1976 Southampton v Manchester Utd.	£ 9.99
1977 Manchester Utd. v Liverpool	£ 9.99
1979 Arsenal v Manchester Utd.	£ 9.99
1981 Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester City.	£ 9.99
Cup Glory. 1972 FA Cup Highlights	£23.95
1963 England v The Rest of the World. B/W	£18.95
1967 England v Scotland. Highlights. B/W	£16.50
1969 England v Scotland. Full Match. B/W	£18.95
Race for the Championship. Canon League '83/84	£12.95
101 Great Goals	£ 9.99
Worlds Greatest Goals	£ 9.99
Liverpool. The Mighty Reds '87/88	£9.99
Arsenal. Best Season '86/87	£12.95

NEW

1961 F.A. Spurs v Leicester. B/W	£18.95
1962 World Cup Series (Highlights). B/W	£16.50
1963 Euro Cup. Milan v Benfica. B/W	£18.95
1964 F.A. West Ham v Preston N.E. B/W	£18.95
1966 Road to Success (World Cup). B/W	£16.50
1966 Euro Cup Winners Cup Final. B/W	£18.50
1967 League Cup. Q.P.R. v W.Brom. B/W	£16.50
1968 F.A. Cup. W.Brom v Everton. B/W	£18.95
1969 Inter Cities Cup Winners Cup. B/W	£18.95

POST & PACKING CHARGES: Inland £1.50, Europe £2.50, Outside Europe £5.50 each video. Send 50p in stamps for our complete catalogue

We have the largest selection of cine soccer films. Send S.A.E. for catalogue.
We also stock soccer LP's. Send S.A.E. for catalogue.

TELEPHONE ORDERS TAKEN — ACCESS/VISA/AMERICAN EXPRESS — DISPATCHED IMMEDIATELY 01-591 2270

HOME MOVIES (Dept WS7).
72 Longbridge Road, Barking, Essex IG11 8SF.

FREE TO ALL WORLD SOCCER READERS OUR 36-PAGE CATALOGUE PRE-WAR-TO DATE
Midland Programme Shop (WS)
253 OXHILL ROAD
HANDSWORTH,
BIRMINGHAM B21 8ED,
ENGLAND

EMBROIDERED SWEATERS

CHOOSE FROM LAMBSWOOL, ACRYLIC, CHEVIOT WOOL & Wolsey LAMBSWOOL & BOTANY ALSO SWEATSHIRTS & SPORTS SHIRTS SUPPLIED.

BIG QUANTITY DISCOUNTS

MINIMUM ORDER 1 GARMENT

WE GUARANTEE THE MOST COMPETITIVE PRICES

FREE COLOUR CATALOGUE

FROM £5.95

alpa sports Dept. WS1

EMBLEM HOUSE CHURCH ST HECKMONDWIKE W YORKS WF16 0LF TEL 0924-404566

PROGRAMME MONTHLY

A must for every programme collector
At least 60 pages each month, packed with news, views, features, surveys and articles
Up to 20 pages of adverts of Programmes for Sale, Wanted and For Exchange
for a FREE INTRODUCTORY COPY of a recent edition, send an 18p stamp to:

PROGRAMME MONTHLY,
14 RAITH CRESCENT,
KIRKCALDY, FIFE, KY2 5NN

BRENTSIDE PROGRAMMES

CHRIS WARD
Send today for our latest
CATALOGUE
CONTAINING THE USUAL WIDE VARIETY RANGING FROM PRE-WAR TO CURRENT SEASON ISSUES
Send large SAE or 30p post to:
BRENTSIDE PROGRAMMES
19 FISHERSMEAD, PUCKERIDGE,
HERTS SG11 1SP.
TELEPHONE: (0920) 822720
MEMBER OF P.A.C.T.

Skill.....Tactics.....Strategy.....Decisions.....Excitement.....Tension.....Action

FOOTBALL & CRICKET

QUALITY STRATEGY GAMES from E & J SOFTWARE (Established 1964)

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS ★ NEW ★ THE INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE OF THE EUROPEAN NATIONS CUP — genuine Nations Cup Format with full Random Draw of 32 Seeded Teams — Fixture List, Results and League Tables of ALL 8 Groups — Discipline & Medical Reports — Squad of 22 Players plus Other Players available — 17 Month Itinerary of Qualifying Group (Arrange Friendlies) and Finals — Plus **many** more Superb Features and Options. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS includes E & J's *MATCH PLAY SYSTEM* an imaginative and exciting new style of match presentation which captures the ACTION, DRAMA & TENSION of International Football.

WORLD CHAMPIONS — A COMPLETE WORLD CUP SIMULATION — Select Friendlies — 25 Players — Qualifying Group — 2 In-Match Subs — Discipline Table — Select Tour Opponents — Extra Time — Final Rounds — Players Gain Experience — 7 Skill Levels — TEXT MATCH SIMULATION including: — Bookings, Goal Times, Named & Recorded Goal Scorers, Injury Time, Corners, Free Kicks, Match Clock, Penalties — PLUS many more Features.

PREMIER II — CAN YOU HANDLE ALL OF THIS? — Play all Teams Home & Away — Unique Transfer Market — Team & Substitute Selection — Named & Recorded Goal Scorers — Injuries — Transfer Demands — Continuing Seasons — Squad Listing ALL Teams Financial Problems — 7 Skill Levels — Offers to Manage other Teams — Sackings — Manager's Salary — Save Game — Team Styles — Bank Loans — AND many more Features.

EUROPEAN II — THE MOST COMPLETE SIMULATION OF EUROPEAN CLUB FOOTBALL YOU CAN BUY — Home & Away legs — Full Penalty Shoot-Out (with SUDDEN DEATH) — 2 In-Match Subs — Away Goals count Double (if Drawn) — Full Team & Sub Selection — Extra Time — 7 Skill Levels — Enter your own PREMIER II Winning Team — TEXT MATCH SIMULATOR plus Sending Off and Disallowed Goals — Results Table — PLUS MUCH MORE!

CRICKET MASTER — A SUPERB SIMULATION OF ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL/COUNTY CRICKET — Weather, Wickets & Outfield Conditions — Batting & Bowling Tactics — Team Selection — Fast Medium & Spin Bowlers — 4 Types of Batsmen — Select Field Layout — 3 Skill Levels — Wides — Byes — No Ball Run Out — Misfield — Dropped Catches — Scoreboard — Batting & Bowling Analysis — Run Rate — Single Option — 3 Games Speeds — STAR FEATURE a complete MATCH OVERVIEW showing Ball by Ball Action and Commentary and MUCH MORE!

TEST MASTER ★ NEW ★ A COMPREHENSIVE SIMULATION OF A 5 DAY TEST MATCH — Inludes most of the Features of CRICKET MASTER and MATCH OVERVIEW plus Declarations — Nightwatchmen — Light Meter — Rain Stops Play — Varying Number of Overs per Day — Follow On — Save Game — New Ball — Bad Light Interruptions — TEST MASTER is a True representation of a Complete Test Match and offers the ULTIMATE CHALLENGE to All Cricket Enthusiasts.

CRICKET MASTER & TEST MASTER prices include a FREE pad of SCORESHEETS

Software availability	Spectrum Any 48/128K		Commodore 64/128K		Amstrad CPC	
	Tape	Disc + 3	Tape	5¼" Disc	Tape	3" Disc
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS	£7.95	£11.95	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
WORLD CHAMPIONS	£6.95	£10.95	£7.95	£10.45	£7.95	£11.95
PREMIER II	£6.95	£10.95	£7.95	£10.45	£7.95	£11.95
EUROPEAN II	£6.95	£10.95	£7.95	£10.45	£7.85	£11.95
CRICKET MASTER	£7.95	£11.95	n/a	n/a	£8.95	£12.95
TEST MASTER	£8.95	£12.95	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

FANTASTIC VALUE: Special Discount of £2.00 for every EXTRA game purchased (e.g.)buy 2 Games deduct £2.00 from TOTAL — buy 3 Games deduct £4.00 from TOTAL — 4 Games £6.00 etc). ALL GAMES are available by MAIL ORDER for *IMMEDIATE* despatch by 1st class post and include Full Instructions. (OUTSIDE UK please add £1.00 for postage and send payment in Pounds Sterling only). PLEASE STATE WHICH MACHINE AND TAPE or DISC Cheques or Postal Orders payable to E & J Software.

Sent to: E & J SOFTWARE, Room 4, 37 Westmoor Road, ENFIELD, Middlesex EN3 7LE.

VISIT THE
SEAGULL CLUB SHOP

STOP PRESS
Home and away replica team kits at competitive prices for every Albion fan, also wide selection of football souvenirs and many new items in stock

Please send SAE for price list to:

SEAGULL SHOP
GOLDSTONE GROUND
NEWTOWN ROAD
HOVE, SUSSEX BN3 7DE
TEL: 0273-778230

BRIGHTON AND HOVE ALBION

STRATHCLYDE PROGRAMME SHOP
136 Renfield Street (2 up), Glasgow G2 3AU.
Telephone: 041-332 4995.
(opposite STV studio)
OPENING HOURS:
Monday — Closed all day
Tuesday-Friday, 11 am until 5.30 pm;
Saturday, 11 am until 1 pm.
Great range of football programmes and memorabilia always in stock.
COLLECTIONS PURCHASED
Top prices paid for any items we require.
Subscription service for Aberdeen, Celtic and Rangers 1988-89 season programmes
Send SAE or international reply coupon for your copy of our latest Mail Order catalogue.
STRATHCLYDE PROGRAMME SHOP
Glasgow's city centre programme shop.

METAL BADGES, PENNANTS, HATS, SCARVES. BRITISH AND EUROPEAN
FOR LIST SEND SAE
OVERSEAS 2 × INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS TO:
SOCCER 2 (WS)
310 CLAREMONT ROAD
MANCHESTER, M14 4EP,
ENGLAND

PEN PALS

LIVIO, 33, would like to hear from people who know about any clubs details for soccer in Gibralter. Needing and greatly appreciated also any local metal badges if easily available. Write to: Bencini Cima Livio, Via Vittorino da Feltre, 31, I — 32020, Villa Di Villa, Italy.

ENGLISH BOY, would like pen friends anywhere likes club and international football. Write to: Richard Lloyd, 4 Edmund Street, Salford 6, Lancs, M6 SWQ, England.

I WOULD LIKE PEN PALS anywhere in the Europe, especially in West Germany and East Europe. Write to: Motoyuki Kobayashi, Daiichiarimoriso, 312 1 Hara, Okayama Shi, Okayama, 701 21, Japan.

WOLVES FAN, 17, would like pen pals from the UK and around the world. Write in English to: Peter Clarke, 106 Welford Road, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands, B90 3HT, England.

ALGERIAN FAN, 27, interested in sports and letter writing would like to correspond with people from around the world. Mohammed Belkebi, 55 Dial El Bahia, El madania, Algiers, Algeria.

WOLVES FANATIC, 17, would like pen pals from the USA, France, Britain and Australia. Ian Croston, 2A Jobs Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry, England.

I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND with fans from all over Europe. All letters must be written in English. I would also like to exchange South African soccer badges, flags and scarves for Juventus souvenirs. Mr Dlason Mokobodi, 7 West Meath Road, Park View, Johannesburg, 2193, Rep of South Africa.

FOOTBALL AND TRAVELLING enthusiast wants pen pals worldwide. Interests include meeting people, foreign cultures and reading, supports Ashanti Kotoko, AFC Leopards, IFK Goteburg and Manchester City. Bengt Backstrom, Sodergatan 16, 450 63 Hogsater, Sweden.

I WOULD LIKE PEN PALS from Germany, England and Brazil and would be interested in exchanging World Cup cassettes (VHS) or national teams shirts. Boniface Okey Echere, Post Office Box 593, Douala, Cameroon.

FOOTBALL FAN, 26, would like to correspond with people from all over the world. Can exchange souvenirs if required. Write to: Graham Munro, 16 Buchanan Avenue, Bishopton, PA7 5ET, Scotland.

I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND WITH people from Europe concerning the World cup qualification 1988-1989. I need correspondents from following countries in Europe, Albania, Austria, Cyprus, Scotland, Finland, France, Iceland, Italy, Malta, Norway, Portugal, GDR, Rumania and Switzerland. Write in English to: P.L.S, NYTT, Mr Frederick Hallgren, Alidebergsgaten 21, NB, S 502 34 Boras, Sweden.

WEST HAM SUPPORTER, 18, would like to exchange VHS soccer videos with Australian/New Zealand soccer fans. Jason Stone, 33 Balmoral Close, Billericay, Essex, CM11 2LL, England.

FOOTBALL ENTHUSIAST seeks pen friends in South America mainly Brazil, Columbia, Paraguay. All letters answered. Mr Robert Butter, 13 Cranage Crescent, Wellington. Telford, TF1 2AU, Shropshire, England.

TANZANIAN FOOTBALL FAN, 18, would like pen friends from Nordic Europe, Sweden, Arab countries and America to exchange views and comments. Write to: Mhando Mjengua, Box 65477 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

20 YEAR OLD INTERNATIONAL SOCCER FAN wishes to correspond with 16-25 year olds from East Africa or Oceania. Steven Kears, 59 Bishopton Road, Stockton, Cleveland, TS18 4PD, England.

JAPANESE GIRL, 20, would like to correspond with football fans from all over the world. Write to: Kimie Fuse, 3-28-13 Oshiage Sumida Ku. Tokyo 131, Japan.

SPURS FAN, 13, would like pen pals worldwide. Also likes Scunthorpe, Real Madrid, Anderlecht and Nacional. Write to: Michael Williams, 17 North Street, Sinterton, Near Scunthorpe, South Humberside, England, DN15 9QL.

ENGLISH GIRL would like to correspond with Dutch or Italian fans, favourite player Marco Van Basten. All letters answered. Tajinder Nandra, 33 Beaudesert Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, B20 3TQ, England.

I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND with Portuguese boys who support Porto and Benfica. Write in English or Italian to: Ronald Gauci, 52 Victory Street, Birkirkara, Malta.

EXCHANGES

GIRL, 15, Everton fan would like to exchange pictures, magazines, souvenirs etc with a West German fan any age. Claire Read, 113 Kenilworth Drive, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Herts, England.

VIDEOS OF FOOTBALL games played by Brazil (Already have sizeable collection) D. Woods, 161 North Hill Drive, Harold Hill, Romford, Essex, RM3 7AE, England.

WHO CAN HELP ME? I am a Belgian collector looking for football tickets (World Cup, European championship, Cup Finals, international or European matches) Write to: Frederic Bouillon, 381 Rue de Baume, 7161 Haine St Paul, Belgium.

I COLLECT METAL BADGES. I would like to exchange with collectors everywhere. Write in English or French to: Basil Zodis, 34 Academy Street, Athens 106 72, Greece.

HAVE MANY RUSSIAN football souvenirs to exchange for any British football souvenirs. P. Keating, 80 Eaton Square, London SW1.

SPANISH COLLECTOR of VHS or Betamax soccer video tapes would like to get friends to exchange tapes. I have about 1000 games. Especially need friends in Holland, Belgium, West Germany, Denmark, Australia and New Zealand. Write to: Julio Maldonado, C/ Alpujarras 30, 4 C, 28915 Zarzaquemada (Leganes) Madrid, Spain.

ENGLISH FAN would like to swap badges, scarfs, flags with fans from Germany, Holland, Italy and Spain. R. Chrich 98 Prospect Road, Carlton, Nottingham, England.

BRIGHTON TOUR GAMES WANTED any year, any country will exchange English League programmes (My choice). Write in English to: J. Wells, 42 Freeks Lane, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 8DG, England.

WILL EXCHANGE FOOTBALL MAGAZINES (Match, Shoot, Nottingham football post etc) or programmes for Union Jack or St George flag (Medium or Large). Andrew Wilson, 133 Alexandra Road, Grantham, Lincolnshire, England.

POLISH COLLECTOR will exchange the badges of football clubs with other collectors. Wojiechi Walicki, Ul Mate Yui 10/12 41 902 Bytom, Poland.

SUPPORTER OF SWISS FOOTBALL would like to correspond with a Swiss fan. Will exchange VHS videos of football. Kenny McWilliam, 24 Coronation Street, Monkton, Ayrshire, KA9 2QW, Scotland.

WANTED

WANTED: VHS tapes 1970 World cup Brazil v England, Bulgaria V Germany, England v Germany, Brazil v Rumania. Can exchange English, Yugoslavian, Italian or Scottish. Jason Stone, 33 Balmoral Close, Billericay, Essex, CM11 2LL, England.

WANTED: Tickets of European cup matches of clubs and national teams and stadiums in exchange for all sorts of materials. Write to: Merlijn Rademaker, Rendier 25, 1273 HN Huizen, Holland.

LOOKING FOR AUTOGRAPHS of international players old and new, also looking for posters of Diego Maradona, Marco Van Basten, Michel Platini, Emilo Butragueno, Ruud Gullit and anyone else. Also looking for pen pals from all over the world especially France, Italy and West Germany and Spain. Also looking for souvenirs of any clubs from these countries. Donal McDermott, Riverstown, Co Sligo, Rep of Ireland.

VHS HOLLAND AND SPAIN VIDEOS required to add to collection will swap videos especially require Real Madrid and Holland games. Tim Britten, 21 Rotherstone, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 2DA, England.

WANTED; Photographs or posters of Milan Italian team of the season 83/84 and the selection of Belgian to the years 1980 to to 1986 or the PSV Eindhoven team since 1984 to 1988. If anybody has one i want to buy them. Eugenio Espinosa Betancourt, Patrocinio no 54 B, Guanajuato, GTO, CP 36000, Mexico.

FOR SALE

PRIVATE SOCCER VIDEO COLLECTION. Hundreds of complete games with English commentary, including international matches from 1970 World cup onwards and post — 1984 English club fixtures not screened in the UK. For example West Germany v Italy (1970), West Germany v Holland (1974), Holland v Italy (1978), Liverpool v Everton (Div 1 April 1987) and West Ham v Portsmouth (Div 1 1988) Send large SAE for details. Websters Publications, Box No 003, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

PROGRAMMES FOR SALE. Your clubs home and aways for sale, also many non league, wants lists checked. Send SAE. M. Willoughby, 465 Norwich Road, Ipswich.

FIFA NEWS: Complete set (consider splitting) June 1963 January 1988 offers invited, football books, histories, foreign yearbooks, World Soccers etc. SAE for list. K. Moulden, 2 Fullbrook Crescent, Reading. (0734) 426846

SPORTS QUIZ LEAGUE, Join the postal sports quiz league and try to win the league title, trophies are available for the winners. Send for details to: D. Gooding, 25 Coxway, Clevedon, Avon, BS21 5AQ.

BOOKS — Hundreds of club histories, reference, biograhies, annuals. SAE for lists. Books, 275 Overdown Road, Tilehurst, Reading, RG3 6NX.

BBC/ELECTRON football management simulation. SAE for details to: P. Smith, 12 Green Lane, Morpeth, Northumberland, England, NE61 2HD.

DANISH FODBOLD 88 YEARBOOK, £80 each, post free. Mr C Stanyon, 14 Fastnet Road, Leicester, LE5 2PP.

NEW SOCCER SHOP MAGAZINE. Packed with adverts for football fans . Free programmes offer and competition.Latest issue only £1. Robert Ratcliffe, 40 Merok Park, Belfast.

WORLD SOCCER
SMIRNOFF
Canada Life
Allied Irish Bank
BAILE
AGFA
POLAND 1988